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MOSCOW TV VIEWS UPCOMING U.S.-SOVIET ARMS TALKS

LD032349 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1457 GMT 3 Mar 85

[From the "International Panorma" program presented by political observer Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades! In the West, they have once again started speaking of Moscow's peace offensive. According to THE WASHINGTON POST, NATO representatives are declaring that they, I quote, have been astounded by the avalanche of initiatives regarding talks between East and West put forward by the Russians. It would, of course be better if, instead of being astounded -- by the way, there is nothing to be astonished at; we have not changed our policy one iota -- Western leaders tried to seriously and soberly investigate the proposals the Soviet Union is making. They were also discussed during the talks Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko held in the past week in Italy and Spain with the leaders of these countries. The significance of these meetings goes beyond the framework of bilateral relations. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko once again drew the West European leaders' attention to the Soviet initiatives aimed at not permitting the militarization of space, reducing nuclear arsenals, and creating a more favorable international climate on our planet, particularly on the European Continent.

The visit to the United States by a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, which has started, is also being viewed with great interest. This is the first visit by Soviet parliamentarians to the United States since 1973. Its significance is also being increased by the fact that it is taking place on the eve of the Soviet-American talks, which are opening in Geneva.

[Begin recording] [Gennadiy Vedenyapin, Geneva correspondent, identified by screen caption] Only 2 months ago, we told you of the preparations for the meeting between Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko and Secretary of State Shultz. And once again, the attention of the entire world is on Geneva. On 12 March, Soviet-American talks start here. Just like the January meeting, they will take place at the missions of the Soviet Union and the United States. I remind you that during the meeting between Comrade Gromyko and Shultz, an accord in principle was reached to the effect that the talks would be held on the entire comlex of questions regarding space and nuclear armaments, both strategic and intermediate-range, and that all these questions would be tackled in their interrelationship.

The Soviet and U.S. delegations, and, as is known, they will consist of three groups each, will meet and work separately and jointly on the territory of both missions in turn. This is one of the rooms at the USSR mission. [video shows Vedenyapin standing at end of a long table in a large room] Here talks will be held on the fundamental point on the agenda -- space armaments. By general admissionn, this problem has become the core of the entire complex of questions of disarmament. Without reaching an accord on a ban on the militarization of space, it is impossible to achieve effective results on the remaining questions.

Interest in the forthcoming talks is great. From these talks results are expected which offer people real hope that mankind can eliminate the threat of nuclear war.

However, Washington's position on the eve of the talks is causing perplexity and suspicion. Declaring its readiness for these talks, the Reagan administration at the same time announces its intention at any price to continue developing weapons for waging star wars.

Daniel Fire, professor at Zurich University, is known for his numerous works on questions of armament. His latest works -- by the way, they have been written at the request of the United Nations Institute on Problems of Disarmament -- are devoted to the potential risk of nuclear war.

[Frei in German fading into superimposed Russian translation] One cannot deny that ideological differences are at the basis of the conflict between East and West. However, one also has to admit another fact: These differences should not blind people; they should not be settled by means of force. What is necesary is a realistic approach to reality, especially in matters regarding the vitally important problem of curbing the arms race.

[Vedenyapin] Touching further on the problem of not permitting the militarization of space, Professor Frei points out that the spread of the arms race to space would result in the strategic balance in the world being upset. He who acquires a so-called star shield will inevitably be tempted to deal the other side a preemptive strike, hoping that by virtue of his protection, he himself will go unpunished.

In Geneva, preparations for the final stage of the All-European Security and Cooperation Conference have gone on for almost 2 years. These preparations have taken place in an atmosphere which, we will say outright, was not easy. Nevertheless, they have been crowned with success. This example proves once more that where there is desire, readiness, and goodwill by all sides, one can and must quicken the pace along the road to mutual understanding in the interests of peace, and, thus, in the interests of all mankind. [end recording]

REAGAN, NITZE 'REAFFIRM' SPACE ARMS RACE PLAN

LD021622 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 2 TASS -- The Reagan administration is not going to abandon its aggressive plans to militarize outer space and, as indicated by its actions, is prepared to sacrifice to them any opportunity to reach agreement on arms reductions.

This follows from the U.S. President's speech before a convention of the National Conservative Political Action Committee, reactionary organization. After declaring his unqualified commitment to the so-called strategic defense initiative, which provides for building a comprehensive ABM defense with space-based elements in violation or the Soviet-U.S. treaty of 1972, Ronald Reagan contended that the appearance of such a system would help to reduce nuclear missile forces on both sides and facilitate real arms control.

Contradicting elementary logic, he thus tried to palm off his program, which aims to upset strategic parity to give an advantage to the United States, almost as a peace initiative. The President said the "strategic defense initiative" was criticized on the grounds that it could prevent any possibility of reaching agreement with the Soviet Union on arms control, but the "strategic defense initiative", he argued back, was nothing less than arms control in itself.

The U.S. reluctance to give up its plans to spread the arms race to outer space has been reaffirmed also by Paul Nitze, a consultant to the President and to the secretary of state on arms reductions talks. Speaking in Los Angeles before the South California Council on International Relations, he said that the "star wars" program was not subject for discussion at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms.

Despite the fact that this position has given rise to serious concern in the United States, the Reagan administration has brushed aside all sober arguments by critics outright. THE NEW YORK TIMES reported, for example, that the administration had replied to a recent letter from more than 100 members of Congress, calling on the President to impose a moratorium on the testing of American anti-satellite weapons and seek an agreement with the Soviet Union on control over such systems, that the conclusion of new agreements concerning military activities in outer space did not meet fundamental U.S. interests. The paper said conversations with administration officials showed that they were unwilling to budge from that standpoint.

WEINBERGER'S STANCE ON ABM TREATY QUESTIONED

LD011604 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 1 Mar 85

["Is Mr Weinberger for the Observance of the ABM Treaty?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS military news analyst, writes:

In recent days Capitol in Washington has turned into an arena of a heated discussion between the warlike hawks of the U.S. Administration, who are doing their utmost to drag through Congress a programme for star war preparations, and the so-called owls, or moderates, who argue that Reasgan's 'strategic defence initiative' may sharply upset stablility in the world and for at least several years put off the prospect of reaching agreements with the Soviet Union.

Addressing the House Armed Services Committee, General Brent Scowcroft, former presidential national security advisor, stressed that Reagan's plans to deploy an ABM system would strongly complicate talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, which are scheduled to start in Geneva on March 12.

The general, who has recently headed the Committee on Strategic Forces of the USA and won by his activities the favours of President Reagan, told congressmen that the actions of the current administration jeopardised the treaty of 1972 on the limitation of ABM systems and might thus undermine the whole process of arms control. In his recently published articles the general stressed that the creation by the United States of a large-scale ABM system would only increase tensions in the world and invite countermeasures from the Soviet Union.

Addressing the House Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger described General Scowcroft's arguments as "quite irrelevant," and said that the Reagan administration intended to carry on the programme of star war preparations, as, he claimed, it feared that the Soviet Union would renounce the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems and create its own anti-ballistic missile defense. The Pentagon chief even claimed that the star wars programme would help reach agreement in Geneva.

It is apt to recall that Weinberger, who is nowadays so pathetically concerned about the implementation of the ABM Treaty, described only a few months ago this treaty as a pseudo-agreement on arms control and insisted that the USA should refuse to observe its provisions.

As the campaign to advertise the American star wars preparations plans is becoming increasingly vociferous and importunate, representatives of the U.S. Administration are ever less inclined to observe even elementary logic in their arguments, ever more often make conflicting statements, disavow their own statements and slogans.

As far as Weinberger's claims about a "salutary impact" of star wars on the course of preparations on the limitation and reduction of weapons are concerned, in this connection one shall recall the Soviet Union's warning that the implementation of Washington's plans as regards outer space would imply that any reduction, to say nothing of scrapping of nuclear weapons, would be out of the question.

MOSCOW TV ON REACTION TO U.S. 'STAR WARS' PROGRAM

OW011153 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1320 GMT 28 Feb 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Excerpts] Less than 2 weeks remain before the Soviet-U.S. talks begin in Geneva. On the eve of these important talks, people of the world are listening with special attention to reports from Moscow and Washington to study and compare the positions of the sides. Success or failure of the talks will determine to a great extent the course of world events. The question is: will it be possible to find ways to improve the world situation and increase the peace and security of the people, or will the world roll down toward nuclear war under the burden of continuing and growing arms race?

Now, let us examine signals coming from Washington these days. With the best of intentions, we cannot find a single report coming from the U.S. capital that mentions a genuine desire of the White House for serious, honest, and mutually acceptable agreements. Moreover, it appears that the White House is acting deliberately to undermine the Geneva talks, including one of the most important issues, that of nonmilitarization of space.

The Bonn bourgeois newspaper GENERAL-ANZEIGER writes that the U.S. President is indifferent to what happens in Geneva and intends to deal seriously only with space weapons. You know that the main purpose of the forthcoming talks is to prevent the arms race in space and stop it on earth. In order to ensure success, it is absolutely necessary that issues of space and nuclear weapons be resolved in a comprehensive and interrelated manner.

The only thing being considered seriously in the U.S. capital is strategic defense, the so-called defense system initiated by Reagan, the defense system against missiles or the star wars program. It has many names, but essentially it is the same thing. U.S. militarists are longing to get to space to saturate it with supermodern weapons and dictate from space their imperial will to the rest of the world. This is very convincingly shown in the representations made by the USSR Foreign Ministry to the U.S. State Department and published in our press today. U.S. imperialism's open aggressiveness and adventurism seem to worry even Washington's closest allies. Even in the FRG, where the current leaders obediently follow Washington's course in everything, even there, they are beginning to slowly open their eyes. The West German newspaper KOELNER . STADT-ANZEIGER deals with the process delicately but decisively. The bourgeois newspaper writes that friendship with such a powerful nation as the United States is undoubtedly a positive factor for the FRG. However, the newspaper goes on to say, cooperation with the current U.S. Administration, which deliberately acts from a position of strength in all political matters, is difficult and risky. If the Americans continue to conduct a policy of confrontation with the Soviet Union, it will lead to a complete collapse of the FRG's position.

Reagan's star wars program is arousing even greater concern in other NATO countries. Western observers feel that this might complicate Reagan's forthcoming visit to Western Europe scheduled for early May.

It has been reported that on 8 May, on the 40th anniversary of defeat of fascist Germany, the U.S. President will deliver a speech in the French city of Strasbourg before members of the so-called European Parliament. Italian President Pertini was also scheduled to speak there on the same day. Pertini is currently chairman of the European Communities Council [as heard] On learning of Reagan's intention to come to Strasbourg, the 89-year-old Pertini, a former resistance movement fighter, categorically refused to speak there. Why do I have to go to Strasbourg, he asked journalists, to become a Reagan yes-man? It does not befit me. I shall go there when I am the only speaker, the Italian president said.

TASS ANALYST VIEWS U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPONS 'BUILDUP'

LD012106 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 1 Mar 85

["Behind the Smokescreen of Peace Rhetoric" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The Reagan administration is planning to spend 1.3 billion dollars on a chemical rearmament of the USA under the budget for the fiscal year 1986 alone. In the course of the hearings in U.S. Congress, the representatives of the Pentagon do no conceal the intension of the White House to start full speed ahead the production of the latest chemical weapons for the destruction of people under the signboard of a "renewal" of the destruction of people under the signboard of a "renewal" of the chemical weapons stocks. This Washington's policy fully attunes to the large-scale programme for the buildup of weapons by the administration in all directions, including the star wars preparations.

It has been repeatedly reported in the United States press that the combat chemicals on the stocks of the USA are enough to destroy every living thing on earth many times over. One cannot help asking why it should be necessary to accumulate ever new types of the brutal weapon. The answer is simple enough: The U.S. Administration it out to ensure for itself military superiority, by basing itself chiefly on the means of mass destruction of people.

On the other hand, the tactics of the White House shows that as soon as the American leaders declare by word of mouth for a "cut" in a certain type of weapon, they simultaneously start speeding up the manufacture of other, even more brutal weapons of mass destruction. As a result, Washington is incessantly building up its arsenals of chemical, nuclear and conventionaly weapons.

As is known, the Geneva protocol of 1925 outlawed the chemical weapons as a brutal means of mass destruction. The Soviet Union has been one of the first to commit itself to observe all provisions of that international document. A different stand has been taken by the USA. Only fifty years later, it ratified the protocol, after stockpiling large quantities of chemical weapons.

Nowadays, while declaring by word of mouth for a ban on chemical weapons, the U.S. Administration is blocking under all sorts of far-fetched pretexts the attainment of an international agreement on that issue. The USA is evading bilateral talks and agreements on that issue. The USA is evading bilateral talks and agreements with the USSR on the prohibition of chemical weapons and elimination of their stocks. The Soviet-American talks on that issue, which were started in 1976, were broken off in 1980 through the fault of the USA. Washington remains silent also on the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty member-states on ridding Europe completely from the chemical weapons, which would be an important step on the way toward a radical resolution of that problem.

This stand is not fortuitious, as simultaneously Washington is stepping up the production of chemical toxic agents of the new generation (binary) and intends to increase almost two-fold the total stocks of chemical weapons. Also visible here is the notorious line of the USA -- while talking of its striving for peace, Washington is at the same time continuing a buildup of its war potential.

DELEGATE TO STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD011807 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Stockholm March 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

Speaking at the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe which is under way here, member of the USSR delegation Ve. Kutovoyi has called upon the NATO countries to come over to businesslike consideration of the socialist countries' important proposals that Europe be delivered from chemical weapons. Attainment of an accord at the Stockholm forum on the withdrawal of those weapons from European soil, and on non-deployment of chemical armaments where they are not present now -- as the initial step, would help lessen the danger of military confrontation, consolidate confidence.

The proposal that Europe be delivered from chemical weapons, stressed the Soviet representative, acquires special topicality in connection with the dangerous plans of the American Administration to launch broad-scale production of a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary ammunition intended for subsequent deployment in West European countries, which is the cause of profound concern of the public of those countries.

The attention of the participants in the conference was drawn to the pronouncement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Konstantin Chernenko that with a view to removing the chemical threat which hangs over the European Continent the Soviet Union will "be doing the utmost to promote establishment in Europe of a zone free from chemical weapons and would be ready to undertake the obligation to respect the status of such a zone, including within the framework of the steps that could be agreed upon between the sides concerned and that would really lead to the mentioned goal."

WARSAW PACT MEETING DISCUSSES GENEVA TALKS

LD011822 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 1 Mar 85

["A Working Meeting" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- A working meeting of deputy ministers of foreign affairs of Warsaw Treaty member states was held here today. It was attended by Lyuben Gotsev (Bulgaria), Istvan Roska (Hungary), Herbert Krolikowski (GDR), Jan Kinasta (Poland), Aurel Duma (Romania), G.M. Kornienko, B.I. Aristov (USSR), Jaromir Johanes (Czechoslovakia).

Views in connection with the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms, opening on March 12, were exchanged at the meeting which passed in a businesslike, comradely atmosphere.

INTERNATIONAL CP CONFERENCE ON WW II VICTORY HELD

LD021817 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] A theoretical conference devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory in the 1941-45 Great Patriotic War has been taking place at the Institute of Social Sciences at the CPSU Central Committee 26 February to 2 March. Comrade Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, Nguyen Duc Binh; member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, leaders and representatives of party scientific and educational establishments from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, Poland and Czechoslovakia, representatives of theoretical centers of the French and Italian Communist Parties, and staff members took part in the conference.

KULIKOV INTERVIEWED ON WARSAW PACT'S ROLE

PM271621 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 p 4

[Interview with Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, by special correspondent V. Kiselev, under the rubric "Tomorrow Is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "Proud Calling of Soldier of the Fatherland" -- Date, place not specified]

[Excerpt] [Kiselev] It is easy to break one stick. But try to break the same sticks assembled in a bundle. They become particularly strong. When we talk of the collective defense of socialism against imperialism's aggression, this ancient wise saying springs to mind.

[Kulikov] We must remember that 14 May will mark the 30th anniversary of the defensive Warsaw Pact.

The historical path traveled by the Warsaw Pact convinces one of how far-sighted and necessary the conclusion of a military-political alliance among the fraternal countries was. The Warsaw Pact, by containing the actions of aggressors, revanchists, and all kinds of military adventure-lovers, has always been a firm guarantee of the sovereignty and security of the socialist community and of the strengthening of peace in Europe and throughout the world. The Warsaw Pact states direct their efforts toward creating a system of international relations under which there would be no more wars and relations between states would be based on the principles of peaceful, mutually advantageous cooperation. That is why questions of averting a new world war are at the focus of the Political Consultative Committee's attention.

However, as is known, the socialist community countries' initiatives are not to the taste of those who would like to lead matters toward a further buildup of the arms race and the unleashing of nuclear war. Reactionary imperialist circles, primarily the United States, are deliberately aggravating the international situation, various options for nuclear war are being elaborated, strategic first-strike means are being created at an accelerated pace, and new types of mass destruction weapons are being developed.

At the present time, there is an approximate military balance between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The Soviet Union will not permit anybody to upset this balance. This has been stated by K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his statements, and he wrote personally to President Reagan: Such a situation is out of the question. We will not permit it.

The Soviet Union addresses the Western countries and the United States on its own behalf and on behalf of its allies. Ours is a unified and principled policy, and this lends the policy force. We believe that the security interests of the fraternal socialist states must be completely protected in the same way as the security interests of the Soviet Union.

The joint armed forces' servicemen are in constant readiness, guaranteeing a resolute rebuff to any aggressor.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD031745 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 3 Mar 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Kim Gerasimov and Viktor Levin, international affairs journalists; and Nikolay Agayants, foreign policy commentator of All-Union Radio]

USSR, CEMA Policy

[Text] [Agayants] Hello, comrades! The past week -- and this can be stated without the slightest exaggeration -- passed under the sign of the intensifying peace offensive that has been unfolded by the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community, and, something that is consonant with this, the acceleration of antiwar activities in the West. Convincing evidence of this is to be found in the reports from the foreign news agencies reaching our editorial offices from literally every corner of the globe and in the speeches made by eminent political figures in various countries. They are united by a single thought, by a single desire, that of doing everything in order to curb the senseless and dizzy arms race and to remove the threat of nuclear war that hangs over mankind. This is why the pre-election speech of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, is still at the center of world attention.

The foreign mass media particularly note the readiness of the Soviet Union, expressed by the Soviet leader, to constructively cooperate with everyone who wants the further development of world affairs to proceed along the path of strengthening peace and security, and not step up the arms race spiral. The media highly appraise the initiatives set out in Comrade Chernenko's speech aimed at bringing about a cardinal improvement in the world's political climate, at achieving a substantial turn for the better in international affairs, and at putting an end to the atmosphere of fear and lack of trust. Our policy enjoys the support of millions of people of good will, no matter where they might live and no matter what views they may hold, because it is an honest, concrete, consistent, and deeply realistic policy.

[Levin] Excuse me, Nikolay Ivanovich, but I would like to add the following: As we know, the speech by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko paid particular attention to the importance of the unity of the socialist countries. Together, we have frustrated the imperialists' calculations that socialism can be exhausted economically, Comrade Chernenko notes.

Over the past few years, our countries have developed even further in their social economic development, and what is important, we are becoming less vulnerable to outside influences in the economic sense. The decisions of last year's economic summit conference of the CEMA member countries, with which we are all now working, are directed toward this goal in particular. The process of socialist economic integration is accelerating and the international socialist division of labor is becoming deeper. The benefit of this accrues to each one of the fraternal countries and the whole socialist community. Worthy of note against this background is the fact that preparations for routine congresses of the communist parties are now taking place in many fraternal countries, and that the preparations themselves are taking place under the sign of the intensification of economic development, under the sign of deepening the process of socialist economic integration.

[Gerasimov] In this connection, I would like to dwell on the following point, too. Recently, the U.S. Administration has been undertaking truly feverish efforts to reduce economic links as much as possible, to limit trade between the developed capitalist states and the socialist countries in every way. The Cocom [Coordinating Committee] organ, which was created during the cold war period, is used for this. It stands for the commission for the control of technological exports to the socialist countries that might have a defensive significance. In practice, however, Cocom is used openly by the Washington administration as a means of exerting pressure upon its own allies, as a means of cutting down normal trading and economic relations between the capitalist and socialist countries. In actual fact, the capitalist states have no possibility whatsoever of preventing the development of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, first and foremost because our countries possess a scientific-technical and production potential of a kind that makes it possible for them to successfully solve any tasks.

[Levin] The futility of these attempts is also confirmed by something else in Comrade Chernenko's speech: the fact that together we have not permitted the United States and its allies to upset the military strategic parity in their favor. In the first place, this parity arises out of the capability of our industry, out of the capability to provide the Armed Forces with everything they need, with all the latest means for defending the socialist countries and providing for the interests of peace and socialism.

[Agayants] In my view, Viktor Nikolayevich, it is very important to note that this line, aimed at ensuring that the military-strategic parity is not upset in favor of the United States and its allies, is the determining line of our cooperation in this field.

[Levin] Our fraternal alliance, Comrade Chernenko's speech stresses, is inviolable. A vivid expression of the inviolability of this alliance is, among other things, the fact that the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact will soon be celebrated, and all participants in this treaty have expressed their support for extending the period of its validity. Under conditions in which the aggressive imperialist NATO bloc continues to operate, we still need a harmonious, well coordinated peace-loving foreign policy and a reliable shield for peaceful labor, Comrade Chernenko notes. With different means and methods, we are carrying out the coordination of our foreign policy. All these actions by the fraternal socialist countries are imbued by a single purpose, that of preventing any deterioration in the international situation, of preventing the world from sliding into war, of ensuring that there is a return to the path of detente.

Upcoming Geneva Talks

[Agayants] In this connection, I think it would be worthwhile dwelling in somewhat greater detail on the results of the visit to Italy and Spain by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union. The Soviet-Italian statement notes in particular that the sides positively value the very fact that the subject of the forthcoming Soviet-American talks in Geneva will be the set of issues connected with space and nuclear armaments, both strategic and medium-range. What's more, all these issues are to be examined and settled as interrelated matters. The sides are convinced that the basis for the talks that has been agreed upon in Geneva is capable of encouraging a substantial advance in all directions covered by the talks. The sides consider it very important that the forthcoming Geneva talks take place in a businesslike and constructive spirit. The talks should make it possible to find a positive solution to the problem of preventing an arms race in space and a radical reduction in nuclear armaments, including medium-range ones, upon a basis of effective and balanced agreements that ensure the security interests of all, the Soviet-Italian statement says.

[Levin] Similar ideas were also reflected as a result of Comrade Gromyko's talks in Madrid. This point deserves attention, primarily in view of the fact that as you know, comrades, the U.S. Administration is trying -- and more and more attempts in this direction have been made over the past few days -- to take issue of space armaments outside the realm of the Geneva talks.

Voices are being heard from Washington asserting that whatever happens over there, the plans for space armaments will in no way be in doubt: Washington has no intention of giving them up. I think it is very noteworthy that Italy, for example, has taken a completely unamibiguous position on this issue.

Criticism of the U.S. space armaments plans can be heard practically everywhere in the world to some degree or other. Sober voices ring out in the United States itself. There are numerous statements by serious, perfectly serious political and public figures, who criticize these plans, the realization of which might undermine any decisions on the limitation of armaments. These voices ring out in Western Europe, too, but the ruling circles of the West European countries allied with the United States in NATO do not dare to oppose, and some of them -- for example the FRG as well as Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher, as was shown by her recent Washington visit -- support the American concepts in general.

[Gerasimov] Yes, Viktor Nikolayevich, that's correct. The Italian Government has taken a different position. It does not support Washington's dangerous space plans. In the sentences that set out the position of the sides in the Soviet-Italian statement, one can clearly trace the hope that Italy also has that as result of the Soviet-American talks, space will not become a new sphere of the arms race. And it states there directly: We shall hope that it will prove possible to find a positive solution to the problem of preventing an arms race in space.

[Levin] What is more, here is yet another new peace initiative by the Soviet Union. At the Geneva disarmament conference, the Soviet delegation issued a statement that directly states: We are willing to halt nuclear weapons tests immediately if the other countries agree to this, even if an appropriate agreement, an appropriate treaty covering this, is not immediately worked out. That is to say, the proposal here is that the technical issues should be solved later; The cardinal decision, the decision of principle, should be made now. This is a very bold and constructive step, for the technical questions have repeatedly become the stumbling block at many talks. It is precisely technical questions that have been used by the American side to avoid making concrete decisions. Once again, we recently put forward very constructive proposals. The West has not yet given a firm reply to our proposals, but fears that there, too, technical details will take priority over issues of principle exist, and this places one very much on guard. If there is goodwill, and for its part the Soviet Union is demonstrating this goodwill very vividly, then any problem can be solved.

[Agayants] Today, and this is clear to anyone, the destinies of peace depend in large measure on whether it will at long last prove possible to curb the arms race on earth and to prevent its transfer to the expanses of the universe. Space must be clear and free of all weapons. As is well known, such is the objective, set out and formulated in clear-cut terms on the initiative of our country, of the forthcoming Soviet-American talks in Geneva. A comprehensive and mutually-related approach to the tackling of issues to do with space and nuclear armaments is aboslutely necessary for things to succeed. A positive outcome of the Geneva meeting and of accords achieved there would naturally promote an overall improvement in the political climate on our planet and would constitute a major practical step on the road to solving some of the most important, pressing problems of the present day. In this situation, the plan for preparing for so-called "star wars" that Washington has put forward carries a potentially colossal threat for humanity, try as the United States might to camouflage this dangerous venture and to lend it the semblance of some sort of defensive measures.

U.S. SDI Concept

[Gerasimov] Might I say a few words about the term which is being used to camouflage these measures -- the term "strategic defense initiative?" There is an obvious discrepancy here on Washington's part. Generally speaking, the Americans are great experts when it comes to thinking up all sorts of propaganda cliches. Undoubtedly, the source of this is business and marketing, their experience of competing commercially: If you are the first to think up a catchy name or flashy label for a product, you can overtake your competitors. One cannot deny the sharpness of the American psychological warfare specialists who think up labels.

But when it comes to this "strategic defense initiative," the President's men, I repeat, simply got it wrong. From the very start, the label, as they say, didn't catch on. It didn't catch on at all, above all because of the absurdity of using the term "defensive" for something which is quite obviously aggressive and offensive. Using a phrase coined by Senator Kennedy, people started calling Reagan's space plan the "star wars" plan literally the day after it was made public. The most vexing thing for the President is that this is how even his closest comrades-in-arms are expressing themselves.

The administration is feverishly seeking a name to make this radical military program digestible. Yes, of course, all this could even be rather amusing were it not for the fact that they are trying to dress the devil up in cherub's clothing. Let us recall what Comrade Chernenko has said: Using the term "defensive" is a play on words. Essentially, this is an offensive concept; to be more precise, an aggressive one. The aim being pursued is to try to disarm the other side, to deprive it of the possibility of launching a counterstrike if it is the object of nuclear aggression.

[Agayants] Yes, Kim Antonovich. The realization of the U.S. militaristic designs on space would open the floodgates for the further arms race in all directions and would have a serious destabilizing effect on the strategic balance that currently exists. We are frankly and bluntly warning the Washington administration of this.

To judge by continuing statements by statesmen of various levels of seniority, including the highest seniority, however -- the latest example was remarks by Caspar Weinberger, the secretary of defense, who asserted that the militarization of space would speed up accords on other types of weapons and would be a guarantee of peace on earth -- to judge by these statements of American leaders, there is the conviction there that the position of the U.S. delgation at the forthcoming talks in Geneva on space weapons must be tough and uncompromising. Alas, this is a position that can only lead up a blind alley. If Washington persists in its ambitions, it will have to bear the full blame for the grave consequences of this.

Something else that cannot fail to put one on guard is the fact that the White House has again returned to its bellicose rhetoric. World public opinion is seriously concerned by the actions of the Reagan administration, undertaken with the clear objective of giving itself a free hand for carrying out possible direct acts of aggression and overt interference, including armed interference, in the internal affairs of other countries, countries which do not wish to submit to U.S. diktat, which are upholding their right to be the arbiters of their own historical destiny. The ideologists of imperialism are striving to lend the practice of terrorism, which has been elevated to the status of state policy, some sort of theoretical and, if you like, philosophical underpinning. This strident and dirty campaign is being conducted bo the accompaniment of the lowest slander against the USSR and the other socialist countries, against the Third World states. In championing this philosophy of imperialist brigandage, the United States is hardening its foreign policy line, which just does not coincide with the widely-hyped declarations of Washington's alleged commitment to peace and cooperation.

Nuclear Parity

[Levin] Concerning the question of the philosophy of imperialist brigandage that you, Nikolay Ivanovich, were just talking about, I would like to refer, by way of illustration, to a speech recently devlivered by Richard Burt, U.S. assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He spoke very loquaciously there in the very same key as his boss, Secretary of State Shultz, spoke in San Francisco. Well, this is quite understandable that he repeated the ideas presented earlier by Shultz, yet it seems to me that Burt's speech deserves attention in view of the fact that it contained a number of revelations, which -- I would put it this way -- somewhat more explicitly represent the concept of Shultz.

One of these revelations is as follows: Burt tries to prove that the Soviet Union, in his words, has continuously built up its military power, and it forces, as he says, the United States to take appropriate measures. If the United States relinquishes its military programs, then again efforts to find political solutions to the problems that the world is facing would become more complicated, he says. But, holding forth on the subject, Burt -- I quote him literally -- says the following: "The nuclear potential of the Soviet Union has also been developing rapidly. In the past 20 years, the Russians progressed from being weak in the nuclear area to parity." Let's think about this phrase comrades. What do we have here? According to Burt, we have been rapidly developing our nuclear potential, and as a result, we -- he admits this -- have stopped lagging behind and arrived at parity. Where does he think there is a threat to the United States? This most clearly, in a most evident way, shows that it is parity that does not suit the Washington administration. It is parity that is unacceptable for that administration, which is bent on achieving military superiroity. This very line, which, in Burt's opinion, has to secure the position of strength at the talks with the Soviet Union, is very clearly traceable, and the position of strength at the talks is necessary for pressure.

The Soviet Union has stressed a number of times that it would not allow a shift in the strategic parity that has been shaped in recent years to occur. Only parity is a reliable basis for truly equal talks, as well as for a solution to the current problems on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security of the parties.

Southern Lebanon Situation

[Gerasimov] In connection with the evident attempts by the United States to impose its will on peoples of different regions, I would like to draw the attention of our listeners to the situation in the Near East. Everyone is now interested in knowing the situation in southern Lebanon. It seems to me that what is happening there can without exaggeration be called the fatherland war of the Lebanese people against the invaders. In Lebanon itself, a somewhat different term is circulated, that is, Al-Jihad, the holy war. And in Western propaganda, one can clearly trace the desire to represent all the fighters against the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon as Islamic fanatics.

But this is by no means so. People of diverse convictions -- Muslims, Christians, and atheists -- are fighting shoulder-to-shoulder against the occupation. It is precisely Tel Aviv that has been attempting to set the various groups of Lebanese society against each other.

One must say that at particular stages it has succeeded in doing so, as it has also managed to turn various groups of Lebanese against the Palestinians on occasion.

However, an outstanding feature of the present stage of the struggle against the occupiers is that the struggle has virtually become a universal one. Indeed, the occupiers did not expect such a flare-up, did not expect it to be on such a scale, and have not withstood its extreme intensity.

For this reason, they have been forced to leave. They have been resisting and making snarling noises -- their departure being accompanied by mass repressions -- but they are departing.

A recent routine plenum of the Israeli Communist Party Central Committee stressed in its resolution that, first, Israel suffered a big political defeat in the course of the Lebanese war. Second, it failed militarily, and, third, the overall American-Israeli strategy aimed at turning Lebanon into a military base for the United States and Israel directed against Syria, the national liberation movements, and the Soviet Union, had failed.

U.S. Near East Policy

Speaking of the situation in the Near East, I should also like to draw attention to the fact that a number of Arab states friendly to Washington, particularly Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia, are currently the target of intensive pressure from the United States. It was brought to the attention of those regimes last year, long before the elections in America, before the reelection of Reagan. Well, Reagan has now begun the second term of his presidency, and the voices of America's friends have begun to be heard from the Near East saying, "When will it be then? We are waiting."

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has already been to America on a visit, and President Mubarak of Egypt will shortly be arriving there. But, whereas Rabin, Israel's defense minister, who was there on a visit shortly before King Fahd, received everything he wanted, the Arabs have first and foremost been told that the United States is halting the sale of weapons to them indefinitely. Second, the Arabs at various levels have been told that the United States has no thought of exerting its influence over Israel until Egypt improves its relations with Israel and until at least some other Arab countries enter into contacts with Tel Aviv.

I think that in this respect, an interview that Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, gave the Voice of America on 13 February is very indicative. He said that one must not expect, as he put it, dramatic actions from the United States in the Near East. It is necessary, he said, to wait until the conditions are ripe. At the same time, Shultz let it be understood that Washington will continue the diplomacy, so to speak, of quiet arm-twisting with regard to the Arab countries. Almost at the same time, President Reagan himself confirmed in a NEW YORK TIMES interview that the United States would never permit Israel to become qualitatively weaker than the Arabs in the military respect.

Events show again and again that the striving by certain Arab leaders to view the United States as an honest broker and mediator capable of impartially organizing a just peace settlement in the Near East is unfounded. In its Near East policy, Washington has relied and still relies on Israel. Washington's and Israel's interests indeed are met by agreements between individual Arab countries and Israel -- agreements of the Camp David type. However, such agreements are incapable of securing peace in the Near East, just as neither the Camp David agreement nor the so-called Reagan plan secured it.

The Near East problem can only be solved by a comprehensive peace settlement, the instrument for which should be an international conference with the mandatory participation of the PLO.

[Levin] Kim Antonovich, I should like to add a couple of words to what you have been saying about the Near East. Yes, indeed, the Americans are currently saying: Decide everything locally. They are saying: Speak with Israel. But what position is being adopted by Israel?

Highly characteristic in this respect, it seems to me, is the completely unbridled Knesset speech by Rabin, Israel's minister of war, in which he so abusively attacked the UN interim force in southern Lebanon and resorted to unparliamentary language. He used expressions verging on the unprintable.

The position concealed behind this rudeness, impudence, and cynicism is a striving to impose one's own plan and an aspiration to hegemonism in all its aspects in the Near East. After all, the essence of Rabin's statement is that Israel demands for itself the right to carry out piratical acts in all the territories of adjoining states. A Near East settlement is, of course, absolutely impossible on such a basis.

[Agayants] Summing up what has been said today at our roundtable, I should like once again to stress the following. The clear-cut and consistent peace-loving policy of socialism instills one with the hope that mankind will succeed in averting a nuclear conflict and avoiding a catastrophe.

Dispelling the menacing military storm clouds, defending space from the transfer of the armaments race there, eliminating the huge stockpiles of lethal nuclear missiles, and securing lasting peace on earth is a very difficult task, but one that is realistic, within one's power, and capable of being achieved.

As Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko noted in his reply to the letter from U.S. World War II veterans, it is necessary to unite efforts in order to remove the military threat that now hangs over people and to stop the madness of the armaments race. Soviet-American cooperation is vitally needed at the present time when it is a question of whether or not there is to be life on earth. The Soviet Union, Comrade Chernenko went on to emphasize, is in favor of mutual action with the United States on the issues of war and peace and in the matter of ridding mankind of the nuclear threat. In our view, his reply says, the forthcoming new talks for the purpose of averting an arms race in space and the halting of the arms race on earth and for the purpose of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments and strengthening strategic stability provide an opportunity to take a practical step toward a peaceful and secure future.

It is on this optimistic note that I should like to end our program. Thank you, comrades, for your attention. All the best to you!

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD012122 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1315 GMT 1 Mar 85

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by All-Union Radio foreign affairs commentator Yevgeniy Kachanov with TASS political observer G.A. Shishkin, commentator Igor Charikov, and All-Union Radio foreign affairs commentator Boris Andrianov]

Socialist International

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Mikhail Petrovich Kutuzov, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War from Lvov, poses the question: What are the current strategy and tactics of the Socialist International? What is its influence on the international workers' movement?

In the recent past, the activities of the Socialist International have been concentrated almost entirely on problems that concern the interests of the more influential West European parties. Generally speaking, this remains the situation now, but recently there have been a number of attempts to overcome the narrow framework of Eurocentralism. The Socialist International has come out in support of a new world economic order and moved in favor of establishing relations with certain liberation and anti-imperialism movements in Africa and Latin America.

I would like to particularly say something about its attitude toward the communist parties. There are differences on this issue between the right and left wings of the Socialist International, but on the whole, one may speak of a trend toward cooperation with the Communists. The Bureau of the Socialist International adopted a decision on this matter granting each of its parties the right to decide for itself the question of its relations with other parties, including the Communists.

Representatives of the Socialist International leadership, after a number of years, have on more than one occasion visited our country, too. At the same time, the traditional weakness of social democracy is manifest in the Socialist International's current policy: underestimating the tremendous activity in defense of peace and reformist practice in the workers' movement.

Japan's Nuclear Policy

Many letters to our program include questions concerned with the complicity of the Japnese ruling circles with the nuclear arms race unleashed by the United States. How can one explain this? I would like to ask Boris Vasiliyevich Andrianov, All-Union Radio's foreign political commentator, to answer this question.

[Andrianov] If one listens to the leaders of the Japanese Government, one might think that they are striving for peace and support the banning of mass destruction weapons. However, all this appears so only in words. In actual fact, the Japanese Government, obediently following in the wake of Washington's policy, is openly sabotaging all steps directed toward eliminating the threat of a nuclear catastrophe and a nuclear arms ban.

[Kachanov] Judging by their letters, many of our listeners are literally astonished by the paradoxical policy of the present Japanese rulers.

[Andrianov] But there is no question of a paradox here. It is all a matter of who is in power in that country. For nearly 30 years it has been continuously ruled by a party that calls itself Liberal Democratic. However, this is just a name which does not reflect the essence of its political course. The fact of the matter is that the bourgeois party of the Japanese Liberal Democrats pursues a policy that expresses the interests of the financial and industrial powers. It was precisely they who nursed it in the postwar years and to this day use it as a kind of screen for selfish gains. This financial-industrial oligarchy in Japan is linked by thousands of varied bonds between the party hierarchy of Liberal Democrats. Such an alliance of the monopolies and the ruling party holds the financial, political, and administrative levers in its hands. They use the press and television, which are subordinate to them and, by all possible means, impose their will on the people.

Official Japanese propaganda, of course, tries to explain this situation in its own way. It states that the ruling party receives the mandate from the people as a result of victory at the parliamentary elections. However, why is it that the majority of Japanese are opposed to nuclear weapons, are against war, reject a course toward the country's further militarization, and reject being drawn into the Pentagon's global strategy, whereas those who have the mandate of those same Japanese people work in quite the opposite direction, contrary to the will of the people whom they are supposed to represent? Those who hold power in Japan are themselves beginning to relaize how obvious this disparity is and are striving to manipulate the people of the country around to their way of thinking. A militaristic brainwashing of the Japanese people has been put into play with the object of eroding the peace-loving mood of the people, who still remember the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Anti-Soviet moods on a revanchist basis are being strongly cultivated. Nevertheless, resistance from the democratic forces to the policy of the Nakasone cabinet is growing on the islands of Japan. It is forcing official Tokyo to maneuver and dodge and to moderate its militaristic appetite to some extent. That is why the antiwar movement in Japan, as in other countries, is becoming a still more important factor in restraining the more bellicose figures playing up to the imperial policy of the present Washington administration.

Afghan Problem

Comrade Fedyunin and Comrade Faizov from Bashkiria, and as well as Vasiliy Buvako from Cherkassy Oblast, pose a question on a rather trickly problem: the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. How is it, Ivan Fedorovich Fedyunin writes, that the dushman bands and convoys of ammunition cross the border without hindrance?

As far as the border is concerned, one must remember that it was established not by the Afghan or Pakistani Governments, but by the British colonialists. No one has ever tried to seriously correct this line running through mountain passes, which are inaccessible for most of the year. And, incidentally, since time immemorial, warlike, very independent tribes of Pushtus have lived on both sides of the border. The passes have not separated them, but rather united them; the seminomadic nature of the Pushtus' economy means that they cross from one side of the border to the other from tiem to time. In a word, the border must not be closed, as this would be an encroachment on the interests of the tribes. However, quite different forces are taking advantage of this situation. Under the guise of Pushtus, quite different types of people are crossing the border, bringing weapons, ammunition, rations, and even electronic devices to communicate with American spy satellites. Of course, the Government and Army of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are doing everything in their power to cut off this supply line of the counterrevolutionary dushman bands. However, there are also facts which, incidentally, have been documentarily proved. Pakistani troops and artillery have been engaged in massive shelling of Afghan Army border posts and, under cover of this fire, as has happened more than once in recent weeks in the Barikot sector, dushman bands have been crossing the border.

Yes, it should be stated quite definitely that the Afghan people are dealing a worthy rebuff to the encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the young Republic. They are being helped in this by the limited contingent of Soviet troops, who are on Afghan territory at the request of that country's government. However, something else is clear, too. The Afghan problem, and the question of its border, too, will only be solved when the external interference in that country's internal affairs is halted and when the undeclared war unleashed by imperialism against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of independent Afghanistan is stopped.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION PAYS VISIT TO U.S.

Delegation Members Listed

LD030807 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0737 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 3 Mar (TASS) -- At the invitation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet today left for New York on an official visit. The delegation is headed by Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

The delegation comprises the following USSR Supreme Soviet deputies: Vladimir Alkhimov, chairman of the board of the USSR Gosbank; Georgiy Arbatov, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities and director of the Institute of the United States of America and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Nikolay Blokhin, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities and president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; Aleksandr Zakharenko, member of the Plan and Budget Commission of the Soviet of the Union and director of the Sakhanovskaya Secondary School in Korsun-Shevchenskiy Rayon, Cherkassy Oblast, Ukrainian SSR; Vladimir Karpov, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities, writer, editor in chief of the journal NOVYY MIR, secretary of the board of the Union of Writers of the USSR; Sergey Korenko, secretary of the Industry Commission of the Soviet of the Union, leader of the integrated brigade of the mine of the third ore directorate of the production association 'Beloruskaliy' named after the 50th anniversary of the USSR; Boris Paton, deputy chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR; and Boris Stukalin, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities and head of the Propaganda Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

Seen off by Solomentsev

LD030851 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation today left Moscow for New York on an official visit at the invitation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress. It is headed by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Control Committee, and other officials.

Shcherbitskiy Arrival Statement

LD041048 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 4 TASS - A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, arrived in Washington on March 3rd at the invitation of the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress.

The delegation was welcomed at the capital's Andrews airport by leaders of the Democratic and Republican Congress factions, including deputy leader of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives Thomas Foley, member of the leadership of the Republicans in the House of Representatives Richard Cheney and representatives of the U.S. Administration.

The welcoming party also included the USSR's Ambassador to the United States Anatoliy Dobrynin.

Vladimir Shcherbitskiy and leader of the American parliamentary delegation Thomas Foley, as well as State Department representative Edward Derwinski made statements for the press.

Welcoming the Soviet delegation, Thomas Foley said that the commencing visit gives a chance for a frank and constructive exchange of views on issues of mutual interest. He pointed out that during their 1983 visit to the USSR, American legislators were greatly impressed by the Soviet people's deep-rooted commitment to the cause of peace and security.

Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, in his statement thanked the leaders of the Congress for the invitation. He pointed out that in the current tense international situation the legislators of the two countries bear a major share of responsibility for the destinies of the world. They should use every possibility to remove the threat of war and to save the human civilization from annihilation. No one has the moral right to stand aside from the solution of that crucial problem today.

We in the Soviet Union believe, the statement goes, that positive changes in the Soviet-American relations and, better yet, full normalization of them, are not only important in themselves, but would also advantageously affect the overall international climate. The Soviet Union is in favour of expanding contacts and cooperation with the United States in various areas, including trade and economy, culture, science and others. We hope that forthcoming meetings with American colleagues from the House of Representatives and the Senate will help to enhance mutual understanding between our countries.

The new Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space arms will start shortly in Geneva, Vladimir Shcherbitskiy said. A few days ago K.U. Chernenko, head of our state, in his election campaign speech set forth once again our position of principle. The Soviet Union does not seek to get any unilateral advantages vis-a-vis the United States, it wants the cessation, not the continuation of the arms race. A successful outcome of the negotiations would be a major contribution to solving the first priority and the most important problem of today, i.e., removing the threat of nuclear war. The Soviet Union will follow firmly and scrupulously the agreement on the subject and objectives of the negotiations. We expect the same from the United States.

Our people, the head of the Soviet delegation stressed, know very well the real worth of peace. Unprecedented are our sacrifices suffered during the war against Hitlerite fascism. Next May the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism will be celebrated. To bring about that victory the Soviet people fought alongside the United States and other allies. Now the danger of nuclear war is our common enemy. Our efforts must be joined against it. Neither differences in the social system of our countries, nor ideological considerations should become obstacles in the way of that objective.

The Soviet people, Vladimir Shcherbitskiy pointed out, have good and kind feelings of respect for the American people. On behalf of the delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR he extended to the American people the wishes of peace, happiness and prosperity.

PERLE SPEECH TO SENATE COMMITTEE CRITICIZED

PM011229 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Malicious Attacks"]

[Text] Washington, 28 Feb -- U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense R. Perle has set forth the Pentagon's views on the state of Soviet-American relations with regard to arms control issues at hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the U.S. Congress.

His speech abounded in malicious attacks on the Soviet Union. It did not contain a single sentence attesting to any serious U.S. intention of holding talks with the USSR on disarmament questions. On the contrary, Perle declared that the U.S. President will never take up the detente positions of the seventies. Moreover, the Pentagon spokesman called "the assumption being voiced in the press that Reagan might return to the process of detente in the world" insulting and absurd. He insisted that the President's strategy, based on achieving nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union, accords with U.S. interests and that Washington intends to act in precisely this direction in the future.

The U.S. military department spokesman frankly declared that the strengthening of international security cannot be achieved until American ICBM's and strategic bombers have the potential for inflicting a "counterstrike" against heavily defended Soviet military and other important targets. He asserted that the strategic nuclear forces' "modernization program" being implemented by the U.S. Administration is aimed precisely at securing that potential.

Perle's statement concerning the U.S. intervention in Grenada was very characteristic of his speech. Whereas Reagan once maintained that U.S. troops were "invited" to that country, the assistant secretary of defense declared with his characteristic brazenness that the decision by the head of the administration to invade Grenada signified the end of the era when the Soviet Union could supposedly undertake aggressive actions with virtually no fear of encountering a counterreaction from the Americans.

In his malicious, militarist speech Perle urged the Senate to create conditions for the accelerated deployment of new arms systems and to regard the Soviet Union as "a dangerous opponent with which relations should be built from a position of strength."

U.S. REJECTS NICARAGUAN 'PEACE INITIATIVES'

LD012209 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Igor Charikov commentary]

[Text] It has been reported from Washington that the U.S. Administration has rejected Nicaragua's new proposals for a peaceful settlement in Central America. A White House spokesman said they were unacceptable to the United States. The Nicaraguan proposals included as a first step the withdrawal of all military advisers from the region. Nicaragua decided to renounce the aid of 100 Cuban military specialists and declared a moratorium on the procurement of new types of weapons.

Here is a latest news commentary. At the microphone is Igor Charikov:

Nicaragua's initiative has again proved its sincere wish to end the tension in the Central American region. We have here a demonstration of good will from the legitimate government of the Republic. And yet Washington has rejected these proposals, and has done so with a speed that cannot go unnoticed. The White House response came only a few hours after the publication of Nicaragua's peace initiatives. Neither the White House nor the State Department took the trouble to look closely at the content of the document or to assess the prospects enclosed in the Nicaraguan proposals.

There is the impression that the U.S. leadership never had any intention of giving peace proposals any kind of attention. Washington has a negative reply ready for every appeal from Managua for a peaceful settlement of differences. This impression is lent weight by the fact that of late, increasingly vengeful, slanderous sallies and warlike calls for the crushing of the people's rule in Nicaragua by force have been directed at Nicaragua by the U.S. leaders.

Everybody knows that the United States is stepping up the already quite generous aid accorded to the insurgent Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and mobilizing its allies in Central America. Washington's intentions vis-a-vis Nicaragua make it possible to judge the direction the U.S. leadership is taking in its foreign policy course as a whole and how it plans to direct the fates of peoples. In this connection one cannot fail to mention the recent speech by Secretary of State Shultz, in which, in essence, he set forth the U.S. foreign policy platform.

From Washington's standpoint, the world is not developing in a suitable direction. National liberation movements supposedly run counter to the interests of the United States, and consequently must be put down. As for the socialist countries, there can be no doubt about Washington's intentions. Through the utterances of the secretary of state, the Reagan administration has arrogated to itself the right to decide the fates of peoples and to determine the course of their development. In other words, Shultz' speech proclaimed and painstakingly justified a philosophy of imperialist brigandage.

But Washington is evidently overestimating its chances of imposing its will upon the rest of the world. The repeated lessons of the past, when the imperial ambitions of the United States met with a fitting rebuff from the peace-loving peoples, have evidently been forgotten.

U.S. APPLIES 'IMPERIAL LOGIC' TO BASES ISSUE

LD011824 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes:

In an effort to justify their aggressive policy with regard to Nicaragua, the Washington leaders make a recourse now and again to the falsehood that Nicaragua is being turned into a "Soviet-Cuban base" that, allegedly, threatens security not only of Central American countries but also of the United States itself. This falsehood has been exposed more than once. In its address to the world public, the Nicaraguan revolutionary government has confirmed again that Nicaragua is not and will never be a military base of any foreign power. Nicaragua, as a truly non-aligned country, is developing relations of friendship and cooperation with all countries of Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa, just as with socialist countries, specifically with the Soviet Union and Cuba, the document stresses.

It is absolutely obvious that Washington's attempts to present Nicaragua as a Soviet or Cuban base are motivated by the striving to mislead the world and American public, to cover up the policy of state terrorism conducted by the present U.S. Administration with regard to Nicaragua and other countries and peoples of the region that hold national-liberation, anti-imperialist positions. As to the Soviet Union, it never had and has not a single military base in Nicaragua or in any other state.

It is not the USSR, but precisely the USA that enmeshed the globe with a web of its military bases, having created a global system of military presence on lands of others. The United States has more than 15 hundred military bases and facilities on the territory of more than 30 states. The total number of U.S. servicemen stationed there surpasses 500 thousand. It must be stressed that most of U.S. military bases and other facilities abroad are directed against the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole.

If the imperial logic of the Washington leadership were to be followed, then, the question arises, how should the Soviet Union conduct affairs with those countries where U.S. military bases are really situated? This question is ever more legitimate since the matter at issue is U.S. bases created close to the borders of the USSR and other socialist countries for preparing and waging war against them.

Viewing the foreign military bases as a serious threat to peace and security in the world, the Soviet Union will continue to regard the matter in all seriousness and will be posing to the United States the question of numerous U.S. military bases in various areas of the world. The ramified network of U.S. military bases abroad must be liquidated sooner or later. This is insistently demanded by peoples.

USIA'S WICK TO INAUGURATE VOA SITE IN SRI LANKA

LD040702 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Charles Wick, USIA director, has arrived on a visit in Colombo. The aim of this trip is to take part in the ceremony of inauguration in Sri Lanka of a new Voice of America transmitter, the most powerful outside the United States.

Asian press reports point out that the work of this station will be directed, first and foremost, against India and Afghanistan, whose independent policies give rise to ill-concealed irritation in the U.S. ruling circles.

PRC NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DELEGATION VISITS

Zhang Chengxian Statement

LD031249 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 3 TASS -- A delegation of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) led by Zhang Chengxian, a member of the NPC's Standing Committee, arrived in the Soviet capital today for an official visit at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

At the airport in Moscow the leader of the NPC delegation in an interview for the press pointed out, in particular, that this is the first meeting of Chinese and Soviet parliamentarians after long years that have passed since the cessation of contacts between us. We attach much importance to this visit and feel gratified, he emphasized. The principal mission of our delegation is to exchange experience with our counterparts on the question of parliamentary work and to convey the sentiments of friendship to the Soviet people from the Chinese people. We are convinced that our visit will play a positive role for the deepening of mutual understanding between us, for the development of friendship between the peoples of our two countries, as well as for the development of contacts between the two parliaments.

Lays Wreaths in Moscow

OW040203 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0114 GMT 4 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A delegation of the PRC National People's Congress [NPC] headed by Zhang Chengxian, member of the NPC Standing Committee, is on an official visit to our country at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

On 3 March the delegation laid a wreath at the Mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich Lenin. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall. [video shows members of the Chinese delegation laying wreaths accompanied by Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov; ribbons read "From the delegation of the NPC of the PRC"]

Tours Supreme Soviet

LD041111 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 4 TASS -- A delegation of the National People's Congress of China led by member of its Standing Committee Zhang Chengxian have paid a visit today to the USSR Supreme Soviet. The guests were welcomed by chairmen of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Lev Tolkunov and Avgust Voss.

The sides have expressed satisfaction with the resumption of ties between the highest authorities of state power of the two countries, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the National People's Congress of China.

The guests were briefed on the functions and structure of the USSR Supreme Soviet and its permanent commissions.

The head of the Chinese delegation expressed gratitude for the warm reception accorded by the USSR Supreme Soviet. "We are glad to state a resumption of ties between the parliaments of China and the Soviet Union after a long break. This is an important stage in relations between the two countries".

"The relations of goodneighborliness and friendship accord with the vital interests of the peoples of the PRC and the USSR," said Zhang Chengxiang. "These relations contribute to building up stability and peace in the Far East and all over the world. We are gratified to extend the sentiments of friendship from the Chinese people to the Soviet people".

The representatives of the PRC were shown round the Grand Kremlin Palace, visited the museum "Study and Apartment of V.I. Lenin in the Kremlin". The guests made a tour of the Soviet capital. They familiarised themselves with housing developments and Olympic facilities.

The Chinese delegation arrived in Moscow on Sunday on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The guests are also planning to visit the city of Kiev, the capital of the Soviet Ukraine, and Leningrad.

PRC ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO KUZNETSOV

PM041129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] Li Zewang, PRC ambassador extrarodinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials to V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the Kremlin 1 March.

After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches a meeting was held between V.V. Kuznetsov, and Li Zewang in which T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Deputy Foreign Minister M.S. Kapitsa took part.

SOUTH ASIA

NURIYEV RECEIVES DRA PLANNING OFFICIAL

PM011451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] On 28 February Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received S. Mangal, deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and chairman of the DRA State Planning Committee. During the meeting there was a discussion of several questions of Soviet-Afghan economic and technical cooperation and trade. H. Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR, also took part in the talk.

RECENT DRA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED

PM011642 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondent V. Okulov: "Chronicle of Creation"]

[Text] Kabul, 28 Feb -- Kabul and the country's eastern region will be served by Afghanistan's first transport and technical center for the shipment of petroleum products and the repair of tank trucks. Depots, technical services, and an administrative block will be sited in the steppe near the capital over an area of 15 hectares. A hostel and canteen have been prepared for the workers. The first section of this project has already been commissioned.

There is more news of the country's life today. The workers of the Jangalak truck repair plant have gone out on a subbotnik. They will pay the money earned during their voluntary labor into the fund for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow.

Documents granting the use of land to a further 138 landless peasants in Bagram District, Parvan Province, have been presented in a festive atmosphere. Since the beginning of the April Revolution, 679,000 hectares of land have been distributed among peasant families in the course of the land and water reform.

A television station has been opened in Ghazni City, the center of the province of the same name. One hour is allotted to Kabul television, which will relay current affairs [operativnyye] programs via a Soviet satellite.

This news has been reported to readers by the Kabul newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, the organ of the PDPA Central Committee.

UN ENVOY ASSAILS PAKISTANI, U.S. ACTIONS

Pakistani 'Aggression' Condemned

LD012255 Moscow TASS in English 2153 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 1 TASS -- The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan demanded an immediate end to acts of aggression perpetrated by the Pakistani Armed Forces on the Afghan border.

Muhammad Farid Zarif, permanent representative of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations, points out in a letter to the United Nations secretary general that during the recent period Pakistan has expanded its acts of aggression against the Republic. In addition to artillery shelling and the infiltration of bandits to perpetrate acts of subversion and murders, Pakistani troops systematically violate the border and launch raids into Afghan territory.

For instance, the letter continues, on February 23 a unit numbering roughly 400 troops crossed the border and opened fire at the Barikota garrison, killing five servicemen and gravely wounding four.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan resolutely denounces these aggressive and irresponsible actions and demands that they be terminated. Otherwise responsibility for their grave consequences will be borne by Pakistan, the letter stresses. It was released as an official document of the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations.

U.S. Expanding 'Undeclared War'

LD021432 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0430 GMT 2 Mar 85

[By TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov]

[Text] New York, 2 Mar (TASS) -- The United States is expanding the scale of its undeclared war against the DRA, Muhammad Farid Zarif, DRA permanent representative to the United Nations said. Since 1980, U.S. military aid to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries has increased sixfold, reaching $280 million in the current fiscal year. Apart from giving military and financial support to terrorist bands, whipping up a malicious propaganda campaign against the DRA, and encouraging subversive activity by various anti-Afghan groupings and organizations, the United States is also actively taking part in the military training of groups of Afghan counterrevolutionaries, he said. According to press reports, the terrorists have recently also been directly transferred to U.S. territory to train in handling the latest kinds of weapons and in combat tactics. They are undergoing training at a number of American military bases, especially in the states of Texas and California.

All these facts completely expose the hypocrisy of the Washington administration, which, while in words professing its adherence to a political settlement concerning Afganistan, is in fact expanding its crude interference in the DRA's internal affairs, Muhammad Farid Zarif said in conclusion.

SOVIET-AFGHAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY NOTED

PM011913 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Gennadiy Musayelyan "International Review": "Dollars and Bullets Are Powerless"]

[Excerpts] There are various kinds of international treaties. Some have long been forgotten and are remembered only by archivists with their passion for detail; others hang like a grim curse over states; poisoning the atmosphere in the region and the world. However, there is a third category of agreements. They are like a bright light showing peoples the way to a new and happy life, remaining in the memory of grateful descendants. The treaty on the establishment of friendly relations between the RSFSR and Afghanistan, concluded on 28 February 1921, belongs to that category.

A new stage in the traditional friendly relations between the USSR and Afghanistan began after the victory of the April Revolution in 1978. The new treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation was an important milestone on the path of strengthening fraternity and international solidarity.

Soviet people's since desire to help the Afghan people organize a new life is being put into practice. The 100,000-kilowatt hydroelectric powerstation in Naghlu, the nitrogen fertilizer plant in Mazar-e Sharif, the truck repair plant in Kabul, the gas fields near Sheberghan and the Jalalabad irrigation system are among the biggest projects that have been or are being constructed with Soviet assistance. The total is around 190 enterprises and other new facilities, 80 of which have already been fully commissioned. They create a solid foundation for further progress.

Our countries' ties are also developing in other important areas: trade, public health, education, and culture. There are Soviet teachers, engineers, geologists, construction workers, economists, planners, agricultural specialists, and doctors working in the DRA today. Everyone in Afghanistan has a good word to say about them.

It is as a result of the fruitful cooperation and friendly assistance of the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries that the DRA has managed, despite the undeclared war being waged against it, to implement important progressive transformations and achieve considerable successes. As a result of the land and water reform, 679,000 hectares of formerly privately owned land have been redistributed. Some 310,000 hectares have been given to previously landless peasants. Before the revolution, more than 90 percent of the population could neither read nor write. Over 1 million Afghans are now literate. The country now has 4,500 primary and secondary schools and 28,000 literacy courses.

New beginnings are visible all over the Republic. Competition used to be an unknown phenomenon. Now thousands of workers and employees and dozens of teams and collectives participate in it. There are more than 50 of these enterprises in Kabul alone. As a result, labor productivity in industry increased by 14 percent last year.

The natural consequence of the implementation of measures in the interests of the working people is the growth of confidence in the PDPA and the swelling of its ranks. In the 6 years since the revolution, despite ordeals and difficulties and losses in the struggle against counterrevolution, the PDPA's ranks have increased from 15,000 to 120,000 full and candidate members.

Afghanistan would have achieved even bigger successes had imperialism and local reaction not been waging an undeclared war against it. Afghan counterrevolutionary gangs, acting on direct instructions from Washington and with the direct participation of Islamabad, constantly slither across like a poisonous snake from Pakistani territory.

THE WASHINGTON POST writes that "the CIA's covert aid to the rebels in Afghanistan is the biggest U.S. secret operation since the Vietnam war." Congress, the paper contines, has sharply increased appropriations for the dushmans, allocating around $250 million for this purpose in the current fiscal year.

Many officials and the bourgeois press in the West, especially in the United States, try to portray the dushmans as "fighters for freedom, for their faith and for the purity of Islam." In fact, they are inveterate bandits and traitors warring against their own people. According to official figures, they have destroyed 1,814 schools, 31 hospitals, 906 peasant cooperatives, 14,000 km of telephone lines, and so forth. The actual damage is in excess of 35 billion afghani (roughly $800 million). When attacking villages and cities, the bandits spare neither women and children nor old men...

Support for this rabble is one part of imperialism's anti-Soviet strategy. Washington still has hopes of using counterrevolution to gain a foothold in Afghanistan and set up bases there, including the electronic surveillance centers that the United States lost in Iran. After all, the Soviet-Afghan border is nearly 2,400 km long and the territories of 3 central Asian republics adjoin it. It was back in the late fifties that the U.S. DAILY NEWS wrote of the need to "draw Afghanistan into the Western camp," which would make it possible to "extend even further the chain of U.S. bases along Russia's southern border."

Thus the presence of the limited contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan combines the defense of Soviet borders against an approach by hostile imperialist and pro-imperialist forces with international assistance for the Afghan national democratic regime, which has repeatedly requested the USSR's help in the struggle against foreign intervention.

Subversive operations against Democratic Afghanistan, no matter from whose territory they are carried out and no matter who funds them, are bound to fail. The rebels and their patrons have not the slightest change of success. A realistic assessment of the situation shows that it is impossible to impose an alien will on the Afghan people, who have the backing of the USSR, the socialist community countries, and the world's progressive forces. All questions connected with the DRA can only be solved by political means. There is no other way.

MARCHUK RECEIVES INDIAN SCIENCE OFFICIAL

PM011431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Expanding"]

[Text] On 27 February G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received members of an Indian delegation headed by Yash Pal, secretary of the Indian department for science and technology. The guests are in the Soviet Union in connection with the third session of the Soviet-Indian Subcommission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation. During the talk there was a discussion of questions of the expansion of cooperation between Soviet and Indian scientific organizations and an increase in exchanges of the two countries' scientists and specialists.

VOROTNIKOV LEAVES FOR SFRY; SEEN OFF BY ALIYEV

LD041329 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, has left Moscow for an official visit to Yugoslavia today at the invitation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro.

At the airport he was seen off by Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; by members of the CPSU Central Committee Comrades Aristov, Yermin, Lykova, Maslennikov, and Rakhmanin; by other officials; and also by Drulovic, SFRY ambassador in the USSR.

Arrives in SFRY

LD041156 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade March 4 TASS -- Vitaliy Vorotnikov, a member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic, arrived here today on an official visit at the invitation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Serbia and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro.

[Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1130 GMT on 4 March adds: "Comrade Vorotnikov was met at the airport in Belgrade by Ikonic, president of the Executive Council of the Serbian Assembly; Gacic, secretary of the Presidium of the Serbian LC Central Committee; and other officials."]

SOKOLOV GREETS GDR'S HOFFMAN ON ARMY JUBILEE

PM031719 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade H. Hoffmann, GDR minister of national defense

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I send you and all GDR servicemen fraternal combat greetings and cordial congratulations on the 29th anniversary of the National People's Army [NVA].

The creation and development of the GDR NVA was the practical implementation of the policy of the SED in the defense sphere based on Lenin's teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland. Thanks to the constant concern of the SED Central Committee and the Republic's government, the NVA has turned into a modern, well trained, and well equipped Army. Along with the armies of the other states of the Warsaw Pact, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, it vigilantly stands guard over the socialist gains of the GDR working people and the entire socialist community.

I wish you and all NVA personnel great new successes in strengthening the GDR's defense capability and worthily greeting the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and the German people's liberation from Nazi domination.

May the indissoluble friendship and cooperation between the peoples and Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, the GDR, and the other fraternal socialist countries grow stronger and develop!

With communist greetings

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister

Kulikov Attends Reception

PM011203 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] Major General (G.) Oldenburg, military, naval, and air attache at the GDR Embassy in the Soviet Union, has held a reception to mark the 29th anniversary of the GDR National People's Army.

Present at the reception were Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Army General Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; other generals, admirals, and officers in the Soviet Armed Forces, and representatives of the public.

The military, naval, and air attaches from the embassies in the USSR of a number of foreign states were among the guests.

E. Winkelmann, GDR ambassador to the USSR, was present

PRAGUE MEETING MARKS 1948 'VICTORY' JUBILEE

PM011040 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: 'Marking an Anniversary"]

[Text] Prague, 26 Feb -- A ceremonial meeting of the Prague public marking the 37th anniversary of the Czechoslovak working people's victory over the forces of reaction was held here yesterday.

Present were CSSR President G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; CSSR Premier L. Strougal; and other CSSR leaders.

Speaking at the meeting, J. Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, noted the historic importance of the working people's victory over reaction in February 1948, reaffirming that the strength of a cohesive people headed by a revolutionary party of Communists is invincible.

The USSR, the CSSR, and the other socialist community countries, the speaker pointed out, tirelessly strive to prevent war, end the arms race, and reduce international tension. The socialist community is an insurmountable barrier in the way of imperialism's aggressive schemes. The world's peoples will never forget the tragedy of World War II and the many casualties suffered for the sake of victory over fascism.

History has proved, J. Kempny said, that it was only thanks to the Soviet Union that the Czechoslovak people were able to acquire freedom and maintain their state's independence. We are bound to the Soviet people by the joint struggle for communist ideals and for world peace.

The same day a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the tomb of Klement Gottwald, an outstanding figure in the CPCZ and the international communist and workers movement.

Wreaths were laid at the national pantheon on Zizkov Hill by G. Husak, L. Strougal, and other Czechoslovak leaders.

FRG'S GENSCHER ARRIVES IN USSR FOR WORKING VISIT

Met By Korniyenko

LD032015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Hans-Dietrich Genscher, deputy federal chancellor and foreign minister of the FRG, arrived in Moscow for a short working visit today. He was met at the airport by Comrade Korniyenko, first deputy USSR foreign minister, and other officials.

Talks With Gromyko Begin

LD041012 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 4 TASS -- Talks have opened in Moscow today between Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice federal chancellor and minister for foreign affairs, who arrived on a short working visit yesterday.

Composition of Delegations

LD040926 Hamburg DPA in German 0841 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Moscow, 4 Mar (DPA) -- Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and his Soviet colleague Andrey Gromyko met on Monday in Moscow for political talks, in the foreground of which are the forthcoming American-Soviet disarmament negotiations and the complex of East-West relations.

Neither Genscher nor Gromyko gave statements to journalists before the start of the meeting, which was prepared at short notice. Taking part in the talks in the guest house of the Moscow Foreign Ministry, on the German side, were also the Federal Government disarmament expert, Friedrich Ruth; and responsible departmental chief, Gerold von Braunmuehl; and the FRG ambassador in the USSR capital, Joerg Kastl. Gromyko was accompanied among others by his first deputy, Georgiy Korniyenko, and by the Soviet Ambassador to Bonn Vladimir Semenov.

ZIMYANIN-LED DELEGATION TO VISIT FRG 10-17 MAR

LD041228 Hamburg DPA in German 1148 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Bonn, 4 Mar (DPA) -- A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet will visit the FRG from 10 to 17 March. This first visit in 9 years will take place at the invitation of the Bundestag. The Soviet guests, headed by Mikhail V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, will have talks with Bundestag President Philipp Jenninger and with the chairman of the Bundestag parliamentary parties, the Bundestag press service said on Monday.

Also on the program are meetings with members of the German-Soviet group of parliamentarians and the Foreign Affairs Committee. Other stages on the trip are Hamburg, Duesseldorf, Muehlheim/Ruhr, and Mainz. Details on the visits to these cities have not been fixed.

GROMYKO CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN

Gromyko-Moran Talks Continue

LD011726 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Madrid March 1 TASS -- Talks continued here today between Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Ferando Moran, minister of foreign affairs of Spain.

The two sides noted progress in the expansion of trade and economic relations between the USSR and Spain. They expressed the confidence that the implementation of the provisions of the inter-governmental agreements on the development of economic and industrial cooperation and on sea shipping between the two countries, effective since 1984, would contribute to the identification and use of fresh possibilities for raising the level of bilateral exchanges in these fields. Note was taken of the auspicious development of bilateral contacts in culture, science and technology.

The two sides voiced satisfaction with the results of their meetings and talks and also the hope that they would contribute to better mutual understanding between the Soviet Union and Spain and to the cause of peace. Andrey Gromyko and Fernando Moran spoke in favour of broadening the practice of Soviet-Spanish political consultations.

Andrey Gromyko invited his Spanish counterpart to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union at a date suitable to both sides. The invitation was accepted with gratitudes.

Gromyko-Juan Carlos Talks

LD011724 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Madrid March 1 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, today called on King Juan Carlos the First of Spain.

The sides touched in their conversation upon different aspects of Soviet-Spanish relations and some outstanding international problems of mutual interest. Andrey Gromyko noted the great importance of the official visit of the Spanish head of state to the Soviet Union in May 1984 and his meetings and conversations with Konstantin Chernenko. Both sides stressed the importance of the further development of political dialogue between the two countries and in this context the importance of personal contacts between their leaders with a view to building up mutual understanding and trust between the Soviet and Spanish peoples in the interests of stronger European and international security. The conversation passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Gromyko Luncheon Speech

PM041000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline "Talks in Madrid"]

[Text] Madrid 2 March -- A political dialogue between our two countries has started comparatively recently, but it is developing.

The same, however, can be said of Soviet-Spanish relations as a whole. They mean now a complex of ties and exchanges in different spheres.

It follows from your pronouncements that the Spanish Government intends to continue widening cooperation with the Soviet Union. This is fully in keeping with the wish of the Soviet leadership. As Konstantin Chernenko stressed: "We are in favor of the development of Soviet-Spanish relations in the spirit of peacefulness and mutual confidence, and we hold that this would meet the national interests of our peoples, the interests of security in Europe and the whole world. The Soviet people have the best of feelings for the Spanish people."

Our conversations and talks here, in Madrid, center on the problems that cannot but agitate all peoples and states. These are nonadmission of space militarization, curbing the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, prevention of new war. Humanity, actually, approached a landmark when the question is posed in all its magnitude whether it has enough wisdom and strength to arrest the sliding to nuclear catastrophe.

Maybe this is an exaggeration? No, it is not. Of decisive importance now is the task of preventing the spread of the arms race to space. It is clear to any unbiased person that otherwise the arms buildup will assume a qualitatively new, uncontrollable character in all directions. The overwhelming majority of peoples and states are aware of this and demand that a horrible danger should not loom over humanity. It there is a need of any proof of this, you may see decisions of the latest UN session, the resolution on nonadmission of the militarization of outer space that was virtually unanimously adopted.

There are leaders, however, who defy world public opinion. They are obsessed with the plans of space militarization and are trying to present this as all but a guarantee of arms reduction. Even medieval scholars would, perhaps, have envied such logic. It appears that the road to disarmament is to pass through the manufacture of ever more sophisticated arms.

If it is sought to turn outer space into a military launchpad with the hope to dictate from there the will to other states, the Soviet Union has this answer: It will not be possible to implement the plans of achieving military superiority either on earth or in space. The hope to protect oneself from a retribution for aggression by an antimissile shield is an illusion.

So isn't it better to seek honest and mutually acceptable arrangements so as to curb the arms race on all directions? This is precisely how the Soviet Union will be acting at the coming Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

Our country, Konstantin Chernenko said in his speech on February 22, is not striving to acquire any unilateral advantages, wants termination of the arms race, wants a real reduction of the arms stockpiles, destruction of a substantial portion of them by way of a beginning, and not the development of ever new weapon systems, be it in space or on earth, offensive or purportedly defensive systems.

As is known, the USSR and the USA agreed that all questions concerning space and nuclear arms be considered and resolved in their interrelationship. This expresses the essence of the matter with mathematical precision. If the plans of "star wars" are given up, an opportunity will open to agree on reduction, even a drastic one, of strategic arms and medium-range nuclear weapons systems. Such a magnificant goal as complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere would be brought much closer. The Soviet Union has been pressing for the removal of nuclear weapons since the moment the first atomic bomb was created.

Even though the talks will be conducted by two states, the USSR and the USA, it is apparent that they have a bearing on the interests of security of all states and peoples, and certainly of Western Europe, not the least of all. Every state, large and small, has opportunities to promote or not to promote the success of the talks.

The Spanish Government's decision to preserve Spain's status as a nuclear weapon-free country has been specifically and duly assessed in the Soviet Union. We would like to hope that along the lines of independent policy Spain will consistently promote the curbing of the arms race. Can it do so? We believe it can, if it so wishes.

Isn't it in the interest of Spain that the level of nuclear confrontation should not grow in Europe, that there should be no room for attempts to call in to question the existing realities, above all the territorial ones, that the all-European process should strengthen on the basis of the principles and provisions of the Helsinki Final Act? One of the stages of this process, and a positive one, once took place in Madrid. Nowadays it is necessary to ensure by joint efforts the success of the Stockholm conference. The Soviet Union favors the adoption there of weighty decisions that would strengthen Europe's security both politically and militarily.

The USSR and Spain could find points of contact also in regard to the need to eliminate the seats of international tensions through political means. The principled basis for this has already long been known: Every people should itself choose ways domestic affairs.

Yet, it is a fact that in the international arena -- in the Middle East, southern Africa, and Latin America -- events are taking place when foreign will is forced on sovereign peoples and states by all means, including even the use of weapons. In essence, it is the other side of the same policy, when weapons are considered to be the fundamental truth, and consequently, the more perfect and formidable they are, the better it allegedly is. The Soviet Union firmly declares against this policy.

A source of special concern are the events around the Central American states. Nobody shall remain indifferent in face of the attempts at encroaching upon the sovereignty of independent states. An end should be put to state terrorism in international relations. Both big and small countries have a stake in that, and for understandable reasons small countries have a particularly vital stake in that.

In Spain, and, as was before that, in Italy, the countries from where seafarers and pathfinders once set out in search of new vistas, one cannot help thinking again that the main path of mankind's development goes not through enmity and wars, but through mutual exchanges, trade, and cooperation. Possibilities for that are far from being exhausted either in relations between the USSR and Spain or between the countries of East and West Europe as a whole. This is particularly true in this age of rapid scientific-technical progress.

Those who strive for strengthening peace and international cooperation will always find a reliable partner in the Soviet Union. It must be stressed in conclusion that the USSR is on the whole satisfied with the way Soviet-Spanish relations are shaping today. A good impact on them has been left by the visit to the Soviet Union of King Juan Carlos of Spain, and his meetings and talks with Konstantin Chernenko. Our policy of cooperation with Spain in the fields of mutual interest is not a time-serving one. It is based on the key principle of Soviet foreign policy -- the principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

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Andrey Gromyko and Fernando Moran have signed a convention between the Government of the USSR and the Government of Spain on preventing double taxation of profits and property, and on program for cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and Spain for 1986-1987 and a protocol on preparing a collection of diplomatic papers on relations between Russia and Spain from 1667 to 1917.

Moran Luncheon Speech

LD011806 Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Madrid March 1 TASS -- Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran today delivered a speech at the luncheon given in honour of Andrey Gromyko. Greeting Andrey Gromyko, the Spanish foreign minister said, in particular, that in May 1983 he had paid his first official visit to the Soviet Union in the capacity of Spain's foreign minister and even at that time had had a possibility to conduct very important talks. Soviet-Spanish meetings have since that time been growning more frequent and fruitful, demonstrating how close Soviet-Spanish relations are.

This is manifest in all the fields: in the encouraging field of trade relations, where considerable progress has been achieved in building up organisational structures but where still remains vast room for the practical organisation of trade exchanges; in a broad gamut of cultural contacts; and in many other fields, where official contacts are paving the way for warmer and more cordial human relationships between our peoples.

The year 1984 as a whole was characterised by a tense international situation. Spain, however, did not give way to pessimism but strove to use every means available to it to revive the process of detente. Believing that it is the duty of all the states to advance the cause of disarmament, Spain spared no effort both within the Western security system, to which it belongs, and at various multilateral forums to promote true and fruitful dialogue.

Spain responded with great satisfaction to the Soviet-U.S. accord on talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. We are fully convinced of the possibility to reach equilibrium in armaments at a lower level without prejudice to the legitimate security interets of any state.

Having noted that Spain, by virtue of obvious geographic, historical and cultural causes, was an integral part of the West, Fernando Moran stressed that Spain considered it its duty to seek and preserve independence to a certain extent so as to protect its national interests without upsetting the balance of forces but without permitting any subordination either. Today's Spain has assumed moral obligations to contribute to a safer and at the same time fairer international order.

We know well that it is not always easy to reconcile these goals but we must not give up hope in our efforts because we are convinced that the progress which we can achieve in detente and disarmament would be illusory if we do not strive simultaneously for a fairer and better balanced socio-economic order.

Fernando Moran furthermore quoted from a speech by King Juan Carlos the First of Spain during his visit to the Soviet Union. The king stressed, in particular, that Spain "believes that it is both possible and necessary to pursue mutually beneficial coexistence between countries with different socio-economic systems, coexistence based on close cooperation, mutual understanding, trust and mutual respect and aimed at mutual benefit and at the enhancement of the international order."

Spain proceeds from the need to renounce war as a means of settling disputes between different social systems, which presupposes the need to respect the interests of every state on a mutual basis, particularly as regards its own security. Acting in this manner, the minister stressed, it is possible to create the necessary climate of mutual understanding and trust among all the states so as to ensure genuine peace.

Tax, Cultural Accords

LD011732 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Madrid March 1 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko and Fernando Moran today signed a convention between the Government of the USSR and the Government of Spain on avoiding dual taxation of incomes and property, a programme of cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and Spain in 1986-1987 and also a protocol on preparing a collection of diplomatic documents on relations between Russia and Spain in 1667-1917.

Gromyko Returns to Moscow

LD021552 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs, returned to Moscow today. At the invitation of the Governments of Italy and Spain, he had paid official visits to these countries.

At the airport, Comrade Gromyko was met by Comrade Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Significance of Trip Noted

PM011200 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Strengthening Cooperation"]

[Text] Madrid -- The official visit to Spain that A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, is just beginning to arouse great interest here.

The Madrid newspapers assess the visit as confirmation that "the Soviet Union attaches great importance to its relations with Spain, which have generally developed normally in recent years." The press is drawing particular attention to the fact that the current visit is being held on the eve of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

Political and interstate contacts between our two countries recently have grown noticeably stronger, deepened, and became more stable. Previous trips by the USSR foreign minister to Spain and by the Spanish foreign minister to Moscow have testified to the mutual desire of the two countries' governments to accelerate the development of Soviet-Spanish relations and fill them with specific content in the sphere of economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation. The visit to the USSR by King Juan Carlos I was of particular importance. During the meeting between K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Juan Carlos mutual interest in easing international tension, ensuring the conditions for the life and work of both countries' peoples, and further developing all-around ties was expressed.

Last year's trips by delegations from the foreign affairs committee of the Congress of Deputies of the Cortes and the Senate of the Cortes were a notable step on the path of expanding Soviet-Spanish contacts. A good start to relations between our countries' parliamentarians was thereby made.

All these visists have undoubtedly promoted the deepening of mutual understanding and mutual trust. Over the last few years a number of agreements on cooperation in various spheres have been signed, promoting the expansion of links between both countries. The Madrid press considers the current visit by the Soviet foreign minister to be new confirmation of the vitality of Soviet-Spanish friendly relations.

Further Reaction

LD022128 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 2 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; special correspondent Igor Kudrin video report from Madrid]

[Text] [Begin video recording] [Kudrin] A fresh contribution to Soviet-Spanish cooperation; deepening of relations with the Soviet Union is in Spain's interests: Such is the local appraisal of Comrade Gromyko's visit to Spain which ended today. In this, local observers have been emphasizing that in the course of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's conversations and talks in Madrid with the head of state and the head of government and with the Spanish foreign minister discussion invariably turned to the most burning problems of the present time -- the struggle for peace, prevention of the militarization of space and curbing of the nuclear arms race.

This is especially important now, on the eve of the beginning of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, of which Spaniards, like millions of people worldwide, have serious hopes.

The local public has been noting with satisfaction that the meetings and conversations in Madris took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and goodwill, which is characteristic of the generality of Soviet-Spanish relations in recent years. Here is what Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran said in an interview for Soviet television:

[Moran in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation] Relations between the Soviet Union and Spain are developing very successfully. We shall continue in the future to strengthen our cooperation in the fields of trade and culture, broaden links in the political field and strive for interstate contacts. USSR Foreign Minister Gromyko's visit confirms yet again that Soviet-Spanish meetings have an enormous role to play in strengthening mutal understanding between our countries; they have a beneficial influence on improving the international situation. We know what respect and fellowship there is in your country for Spain, our people fully reciprocate this.

[Kudrin] There has also been interest here in the documents signed by Comrade Gromyko and Fernando Moran, especially in the program for cultural and scientific cooperation in 1986-87. How better to reflect the traditional interest of our peoples in one another than through lively development of links in literature, drama, cinema and music? [end video recording]

ANTHOLOGY OF GROMYKO SPEECHES PUBLISHED IN SPAIN

PM281946 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Feb 85 p 3

[TASS report: "In Spanish"]

[Text] Madrid, 27 Feb -- The "Selected Articles and Speeches" of A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, have been published in Spain in a large print run. The book includes addresses, speeches, and articles examining the international situation and Soviet foreign policy. The book opens with an address to Spanish readers stressing that Soviet-Spanish relations have developed normally on the whole since they were established in 1977, although, of course, by no means all the existing potential and scope for cooperation in the various spheres have been brought into operation. The Soviet Union has advocated and continues to advocate the steady and fruitful development of relations with Spain and cooperation in all spheres of mutual interest. While attaching due importance to political contacts the Soviet Union also favors initiating and expanding trade and economic ties.

ITALIAN REACTION TO GROMYKO VISIT NOTED

PM011349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by special correspondents G. Zafesov and V. Mikhaylov: "Active Dialogue"]

[Text] Rome, 28 Feb -- There are still frosts at night, but by morning the sun is already warm over the city. Of course, it would be a journalistic exaggeration to draw a connection between the sun's rays and Soviet-Italian relations. But they can be felt to be growing warmer. Interest in our country has revived in Italy, and hopes have been stirred in connection with the USSR's policy in the international arena.

The Italians have warmly welcomed K.U. Chernenko's address to them in connection with the publication of his "Collected Articles and Speeches" here. Profound understanding has greeted his words to the effect that the development and improvement of relations between the USSR and Italy are particularly necessary now, in the nuclear age, when the question of states' collaboration to preserve world peace and save our civilization is arising.

Italians treated the results of the visit to Italy by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister with interest. The Italian press notes the consistency of the development of relations between our countries and the fact that this is not the first Soviet visit to Italy at this level. At the same time the press recalls that during last year's trip to the USSR by Italian Foreign Minister G. Andreotti a long-term agreement was signed on the intensification of economic, industrial and technical cooperation between our countries for the period through 1990.

During the present visit there was a series of meetings and talks aimed at the further development and intensification of relations between the two countries. During an examination of the state and prospects of trade and economic relations between the USSR and Italy, the sides expressed the readiness to develop them on the basis of existing long-term agreements, overcoming the problems that arise in a spirit of goodwill and mutual consideration for the sides' interests. At the same time they noted the active nature of Soviet-Italian political dialogue.

In the Soviet-Italian statement, adopted at the end of the visit, the two sides confirmed that their ultimate goal is complete disarmament under effective international control. This requires the use of space for exclusively peaceful purposes, the abolition of nuclear weapons in full and everywhere, and the elimination of all other types of armaments.

The Soviet guest's visit to Rome, P.L. Romita, minister of budget and economic planning, noted, is a useful and important opportunity for an in-depth study of the subjects of peace, which are of interest not only to Italy and the Soviet Union but also to the entire world. Italian Prime Minister B. Craxi stated in turn that his government is seeking to promote positive processes in East-West relations and in international detente. The meetings and talks in Rome went beyond the framework of bilateral relations. The USSR foreign minister's visit, the newspaper L'UNITA noted, took place on the threshold of the Geneva talks and thus acquired special international significance. Soviet-Italian relations, the newspaper IL MESSAGGERO believes, are evidence that differences determined by the difference in social systems are no obstacle to the development of relations, the holding of negotiations, or the conclusion of agreements.

Here in the Eternal City the Soviet Union's voice on an age-old human issue, that of war and peace, had an imposing and persuasive ring. The USSR again stated that it is prepared honestly to travel its part of the road toward mutually acceptable accords and that it expects the same of the United States. The Soviet Union will continue struggle against a militarist line in order not only to fully exclude the danger that could loom from space but also to exclude war as a method of resolving vexed issues and to ensure peace for all peoples.

The main theme of the Rome meetings, peace and cooperation, requires vigorous and specific action. Many people here in Italy would like to hear their country speaking out more clearly against the upsurge of the arms race and in favor of the curbing and halting of the military conveyor belts. This country has sufficient potential to use specific deeds to promote the transfer of world development from the channel of military confrontation to the paths of international cooperation. The existence of this potential is confirmed by the practice and nature of Soviet-Italian relations.

PORTUGUESE DOCUMENT PROHIBITS NUCLEAR WEAPONS

LD011521 Moscow TASS in English 1205 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Lisbon March 1 TASS -- TASS correspondent Gennadiy Petrov reporting:

Yielding the pressure of that country approved a draft resolution actually prohibiting the siting of nuclear weapons in the country.[sentence as received] The document which will be sent to the National Assembly of Portugal for endorsement says that Washington retains the possibility to store only "conventional arms and ammunition" in that country.

At its meeting the Cabinet of Ministers also decreed that the commander of Portuguese Air Force on the Azores archipelago should be kept informed about the type and amount of explosives and ammunitions stored in that zone. The matter is that Lajes U.S. Air Force Base is situated in Terceira, one of the islands of the Azores achipelgo. The contents of its depots are kept secret from the Portuguese military. Lisbon newspapers and magazines often carry reports about possible presence of nuclear weapons at the depots of Lajas base which the Americans have turned into their virtual fief on Portuguese territory.

PRAVDA CITES PLO 'REJECTION' OF MUBARAK PROPOSALS

PM041203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Statement by PLO Spokesman"]

[Text] Tunis, 1 Mar -- According to the Palentinian news agency WAFA, a PLO spokesman in Tunis has declared that the convocation of an international conference under UN auspices is the only acceptable means to achieve a just solution to the Palestinain problem, resolve the Near East crisis, and end Israeli occupation of all seized territories including Jersusalem.

The spokesman added that the international conference participants should comprise the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all sides involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Western news agencies, and specifically REUTER, interpret this statement by the PLO spokesman as a rejection of Egyptian President H. Mubarak's proposals for direct talks between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation under Washington's patronage.

PLO, JORDAN REACH AGREEMENT FOR JOINT ACTION

LD011217 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1955 GMT 19 Feb 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] It has been announced in Amman that Jordan's King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat have reached agreement on a framework for joint action. The text of that agreement has not been published yet, but the Arab press reports it registers the consent of both sides to strive together for implementation of a just and peaceful settlement of the Near East problem and cessation of Israeli occupation of Arab territories, including Jerusalem. The question of the Palestinian people's self-determination, moreover, must be solved, according to that accord, within the framework of the Arab confederation, which is supposed to be formed out of the Jordanian and Palestinian states.

The agreement envisages PLO participation in peace talks, but as part of a joint delegation. This accord immediately aroused acute polemics within the Arab countries. Some of them, including Egypt, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia, approved it, while Syria, Democratic Yemen and a number of other states condemned the agreement, saying it led to undermining the PLO's role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The agreement was also sharply criticized by leaders of most Palestinian organizations. One cannot fail to be alert also to the fact that official Washington approved the Amman accord. They obviously expect that its participants may depart from the line of opposing American-Israeli plans in the Near East.

TV VIEWS PLO-JORDAN ACCORD, MUBARAK REMARKS

LD012317 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2005 GMT 1 Mar 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Excerpts] The Israeli hawks continue to say no to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, no to talks with the PLO, and no to the participation of the Soviet Union in a Near East settlement. This is precisely what Shamir, the Israeli foreign minister, stated during his recent tour of Western Europe.

In essence, the Reagan administration occupies a similar position. Not long ago, during his talks with the Saudi King Fahd, the head of the White House again declared his opposition to holding an international conference on the Near East with all interested parties taking part, including the PLO. Reagan argued for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations of the Camp David type. But it was precisely the Camp David accords that undermined the changes of an all-embracing Near East settlement.

While Fahd was in the United States, the conclusion of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was announced in Amman. Its details are hidden in nebulous phrasing, which evidently gave LE MONDE, of Paris, grounds for calling the document a masterpiece of ambiguity. This agreement received a hostile reception from a number of Arab countries, and drew severe criticism from many Palestinian organizations, and even from some prominent figures in the Palestinian organization Al-Fatah.

Not for nothing did President Reagan appraise this agreement as a positive step, for the White House, pursuing a strategic line in the Near East, together with Israel, does not recognize the right of the Palestinian Arabs to set up their own independent state, and does not recognize the PLO as the only legitimate representative of that struggling people.

Subsequent events in the region have shown yet more clearly where the champions of separate deals in the Near East are leading matters. A few days ago Mubarak, the Egyptian president, stated in THE NEW YORK TIMES that he supports the idea of establishing a joint delegation of Jordanians and moderate Palestinians, who need not by any means be representatives of the PLO, to conduct direct negotiations with Israel.

Peres, the Israeli prime minister, responded promptly to Mubarak's statement, calling it an important step forward. But at the same time Peres stressed that Israel is opposed to the inclusion of PLO representatives in a Jordanian delegation. Observers called attention to two other points in Mubarak's statement: These negotiations are to be conducted with the participation of the United States, and the international conference on the Near East is, supposedly, to be the final stage of a settlement, or, more precisely, it is to approve to the results of the latest separate deal. That's the way things stand.

The White House has welcomed Mubarak's proposal, which will apparently be discussed in detail during his forthcoming visit to Washington. In the meantime, details are being clarified between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

The Israeli authorities have decided to establish three new militarized settlements in the town of Al-Khalil. They will be built on the site of the present old Arab quarters of the town. What, one may ask, are the direct negotiations, proposed by the participants in Camp David, to be about, if ruling circles in Israel are continuing to pursue a course aimed at seizing Arab lands in the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza sector.

LEBANESE PARTY LEADER HAILS SOVIET MIDEAST STANCE

LD041112 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] A delegation of one of the Lebanese political parties, the National Syrian Social Party, headed by its chairman 'Isam al-Mahayri recently visited our country. Our correspondent Viktor Shcherbakov had a meeting with him. Here is his report:

[Shcherbakov] The Lebanese National Syrian Social Party was founded 15 years ago. Its chief aims are the struggle for independence and social progress in the country and the struggle against imperialist aggression in the Arab world. The party favors close contacts with the Syrian Arab Republic and all progressive forces in the Middle East.

[Begin Al-Mahayri recording in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] I should like to take this opportunity, 'Isam al-Mahayri says, to convey our greetings to the Soviet people and to express the profound gratitude of the Lebanese people to the Soviet Union for the enormous aid that it gives the forces which are struggling for liberation, progress, and democracy and against colonialism and imperialism in all its forms. I should like to note with satisfaction that the USSR stance on a Middle East settlement is in the fundamental interests of all the peoples of the Middle East. The core of the conflict, as everyone knows, is the Palestinian problem. The Soviet Union persistently champions the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, right up to the creation of their own sovereign state. That position of principle has the approval of all progressive forces in the Arab countries and throughout the world. The complex problems of the Middle East cannot be solved by means of separate deals. The stance of the USSR is particularly important at the current time, 'Isam al-Mahayri continues. Our people are waging an armed struggle against the Israeli aggressors. The Soviet Union has stated on many occasions tht the aggressor troops must be withdrawn from southern Lebanon and from all the occupied Arab territories. The members of our party, too, are fighting with weapons in their hands. We are firmly convinced that victory in the national liberation struggle is organically linked with the social revolution. We are linked by close relations of cooperation and combat alliance with all the revolutionary and patriotic forces of Lebanon headed by the Communist Party, which has become the core of consolidation of the country's revolutionary, patriotic, and progressive forces, the National Democratic Front. We carry out joint military operations within the framework of the armed resistance by the Lebanese national patriotic forces to the Israeli occupation. In waging a bitter armed struggle against the Israeli aggressors, the National Democratic Front has set the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories in Lebanon as its aim. We also aspire toward strengthening Lebanon's cooperation and solidarity with other Arab countries, first and foremost Syria. We will continue in the furure to strengthen our links with the Soviet Union and all forces of liberation and progress, 'Isam al-Mahayri, chairman of the Lebanese National Syrian Social Party, said in conclusion. It is only on that path that the true independence of our homeland can be achieved.

TASS CITES IRAQI, IRANIAN REPORTS ON BATTLES

LD031411 Moscow TASS in English 1205 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad March 3 TASS -- In the past twenty four hours Iraqi planes flew 91 sorties, delivering strikes on enemy's troops and military hardware east of Basrah, says a communique issued here by the main military command of Iraq. Exchanges of artillery (?fire) took place in various sectors of the front. Most intensive artillery duels were dought in Maysan sector.

Nicosia March 3 TASS -- The IRNA news agency (Iran) reports that Iranian artillery massively shelled Iraqi positions in Mehran area. Intensive exchanges of fire also took place in the southern sector of the front in the area of Majnun Islands.

SOMALIA, S. AFRICA CONCLUDE MILITARY PACT

LD012245 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Nadezhda (Ryasova) commentary]

[Text] The Somali authorities have concluded a secret military pact with the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa, reports the journal AFRIQUE-ASIE published in Paris. This report is commented upon by Nadezhda (Ryasova):

Individual points in the secret deal between Mogadishu and Pretoria have already made their appearance on the pages of many newspapers, and not just African ones. The U.S. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reported last December on the arrival in Somalia of a large group of South African military air personnel. The permission for South African aircraft to land in Somalia and to overfly its territory is already known. The journal AFRIQUE-ASIE now reports that the Mogadishu regime has granted South African warships the right to call at the ports of Berbera and Kismayu. In exchange, Pretoria has agreed to take part in the modernization and extension of the port of Kismayu, to supply a large quantity of arms and military equipment to the Somali rulers, and to perform different kinds of services for them in suppressing rebel elements.

All of these facts are evidence that Somalia is crudely violating the OAU Charter and decisions of the United Nations and Nonaligned Movement which prohibit any alliance with the racist Republic of South Africa, particularly any military one. Of course, this is well known in Mogadishu. At one time, the Somali leadership upheld progressive positions and strictly carried out all requirements concerning the boycott of the apartheid state. The Somali authorities' movement toward a reactionary policy in both domestic and foreign affairs can be clearly traced after their rapprochement with the West, and principally with the United States. Let me recall that in 1980, Somalia concluded a military agreement with the United States, placing at U.S. disposal a base on Somali territory. In Washington, however, they clearly thought that this was not enough to secure the interests of the United States in that strategically important region and decided to bring in their old friend and ally, the aggressive racist regime in Pretoria. It is no coincidence that the secret military pact between Somalia and South Africa was concluded immediately after talks involving Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, which took place in Pretoria, where he discussed the issue of extending strategic cooperation between the United States and South Africa in Africa.

Now the racists, carrying out the role of America's policeman, have, with the help of the Mogadishu regime, obtained an opportunity to carry out a policy of destabilizing progressive states not just in the south, but in other parts of the continent as well, and in particular in the Horn of Africa. The secret intrigues of the U.S. imperialist forces and their racist and other lackeys must be rebuffed by the whole of independent Africa.

CONSULAR CONVENTION SIGNED WITH GHANA 22 FEB

PM281259 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Announcements"]

[Text] A consular convention between the USSR and the Republic of Ghana has been signed in Accra. On the instructions of their governments, the convention was signed 22 February by O. Asamoah, Ghanaian secretary for foreign affairs, and V.M. Semenov, USSR ambassador to the Republic of Ghana.

YAZKULIYEV, DELEGATION CONTINUE VISIT TO URUGUAY

Received by Sanguinetti

LD030041 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2304 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] There has been a meeting in Montevideo between Julio Maria Sanguinetti, president of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and Comrade Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, who is leading a delegation from the Soviet Union taking part in the events connected with the inauguration of the new Uruguayan president. During a conversation that took place in a warm and friendly atmopshere, the head of the delegation from the Soviet Union wished success and happiness to all Uruguayan people. Julio Maria Sanguinetti noted the aspiration of Uruguay, which supports peace and cooperation, of expanding and deepening comprehensive links with the Soviet Union.

The USSR delegation laid a wreath at the mausoleum of Jose Artigas, a national hero from the liberation struggle of the Uruguayan people.

Meeting With Vice President

LD012357 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] The USSR delegation which is now in Montevideo and is led by Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has visited Enrique Tarigo, the chairman of the Senate and General Assembly, the parliament, of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, who took office on 1 March as vice president of the country. The head of the USSR delegation conveyed to Tarigo a message from Soviet parliamentarians, expressing congratulations on behalf of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet in connection with the resumption of work by the supreme legislative organ of Uruguay and wishes for great successes for the good of the friendly people of that republic.

SHULTZ, NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA MEET IN MONTEVIDEO

LD022218 Moscow TASS in English 2147 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 2 TASS -- According to the reports of news agencies, the President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega has met in Montevideo with the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. They both are staying in the capital of Uruguay in connection with the swearing-in of the president of that Latin American country Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

The meeting between Ortega and Shultz has taken place at the time when the Reagan administration is whipping up the campaign of shameless lies and slander against the Sandinista people's government whose purpose is to make American congressmen approve allocations for the continuation of the undeclared war against the revolutionary republic. The U.S. President takes a most active part in this campaign of malicious inventions against the Sandinistas.

On March 1, speaking at the 12th annual conference of the National Conservative Committee of Political Actions in Washington, Reagan again described hired assassins perpetrating acts of gory terror on the Nicaraguan territory as "brothers" and "freedom fighters". This can be evidence of one thing only: The U.S. Administration is not going to give up its attempts to overthrow the Sandinista people's government with the help of arms, with the help of CIA mercenaries.

The Nicaraguan Government holds a constructive stand. D. Ortega, president of the Republic, came up recently with new initiatives aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Central America. It is on his initiative that the meeting with Shultz in Montevideo was held.

According to press reports, in the course of the meeting the U.S. secretary of state again set forth the demand of the Reagan administration that Nicaragua change its home and foreign policy. Reiterating the readiness of the Sandinista government to settle disputable problems by means of talks, D. Ortega, immediately after conferring with G. Shultz, pointed out the importance of such contacts for the settlement of the Central American problems.

Nicaraguan Initiatives Rejected

LD031824 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 3 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes:

Nicaragua's striving for peace, for normalisation of relations with the United States was shown again by President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega during a meeting in Montevideo with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. As is known, the Nicaraguan Government has just come out with new important foreign-policy initiatives aimed at the easing of tension in the region and at promoting the efforts of the Contadora Group in the quest of the ways of political settlement in Central America. At the same time, the Nicaraguan president confirmed the resolve of the Nicaraguan people to protect freedom and independence of the country, gains of the Sandinista people's revolution to the end.

It follows from reports of new agencies from the Uruguayan capital that the head of the diplomatic department of the United States rejected all Nicaragua's proposals. At a meeting in Montevideo he actually confirmed Washington's course at overthrowing the lawful government of that country. The essence of the White House's demands he set out is the striving to impose on Nicaragua such a course in the home and foreign policy as would suit the Washington administration. And the policy of diktat conducted by the White House is accompanied by a slanderous propaganda campaign against Nicaragua, by the attempts to present it as a Soviet and Cuban base threatening the United States' security.

At a press conference after the meeting with Shultz, Daniel Ortega justly summed up as a "big lie" the assertions of U.S. official representatives about the presence of thousands of Cuban military advisers in Nicaragua. Washington makes a recourse to these propaganda tricks to justify its anti-Nicaraguan actions. In reality it is not the USSR and Cuba, but the United States that enmeshed the globe with a web of its military bases threatening peace and security in the world.

Thus, there are obviously two political courses in the Central American crisis. On the one hand, Nicaragua's line at a peaceful political settlement which is in keeping with the efforts of the countries of the Contadora Group and expectations of all peaceful peoples. It is opposed by Washington's line at the further aggravation of the situation, the escalation of aggression for purposes of overthrowing the Nicaraguan Goverment.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW IDEOLOGICAL MEETING

LD012045 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1850 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] The party organizations of Moscow are solving great and manifold ideological tasks. Their activity is presently devoted to preparations for the 27th party congress. A meeting of the party ideological aktiv of the capital that took place in the Moscow Gorkom on 1 March dealt with how to make propaganda, agitation, and educative work more effective. The tasks of the city party organization were discussed in the light of the tenets in Comrade Chernenko's article, Matching Up to the Demands of Developed Socialism [Na Uroven Trebovaniy Razvitogo Sotsializma] and the materials of the All-Union Scientific Practical Conference: The Perfection of Developed Socialism and the Ideological Work of the Party in Light of the Decisions of the June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, addressed the meeting.

VOROTNIKOV CHAIRS RSFSR GOVERNMENT MEETING

PM281257 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has examined a number of questions of the republic's economic development at a routine session.

Reports were heard from the Ministries of Procurement, the Meat and Dairy Industry, and the Food Industry and Kaluga, Orel, and Tula Oblispolkoms on ensuring the normal working of transport in the complicated conditions of the winter period. It was noted that the leaders of the ministries and oblasts that have been checked have not taken sufficiently effective measures to accelerate the loading and unloading operations so as to reduce freightcar idle time. The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium issued a strict warning to ministers and oblispolkom leaders about their personal responsibility for organizing the unloading of freightcars and ensuring the uninterrupted working of transport.

The session discussed the question "On Stepping up the Organizational Work of the RSFSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources in Implementing the Long-Term Reclamation Program and Improving the Effective Utilization of Reclaimed Land in Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum and the Instructions Contained in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's Speech at That Plenum." The resolution adopted envisages implementing the measures elaborated for commissioning production capacities and fixed capital by concentrating material, technical, and labor resources on major construction projects. Attention was drawn to the comprehensive reclamation and agricultural development of land, the improvement of work quality, the introduction into practice of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and the construction of housing and sociocultural facilities for reclamation workers.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium approved a comprehensive plan for the development and siting of a material and technical construction base in areas of Siberia, the Far East, and Kurgan Oblast. The progress of preparations for 1985 spring sowing on Ivanovo Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes was also examined. The session was chaired by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

SOLOMENTSEV SPEECHES, ARTICLES PUBLISHED

LD012201 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A book by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Party Control Committee at the CPSU Central Committee, entitled "The Time of Decisions and Actions, Selected Speeches and Articles [Vremya Resheniy i Deystviy, Izbrannyye Rechi i Stati]", has been published. It elucidates topical questions of the CPSU's internal and foreign policies and the state, economic, and soviet construction. The book is published by the Politicheskaya Literature publishers.

MARCHUK ADDRESSES RALLY OF COMPETITION WINNERS

PM031409 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 1 Mar 85 p 1

[Report by V. Garov: "Leaders"]

[Excerpts] A rally was held at the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements in Moscow yesterday to celebrate the honor roll placing of the labor collectives that were winners of socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the state plan for the economic and social development of the country in 1984 and that received CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners for their competition results.

The rally brought together leading Moscow and Moscow Oblast production workers and emissaries from the country's best labor collectives. The presidium comprised senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, Komosomol Central Committee, and representatives of Moscow party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations.

The rally was opened by Academician G. I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements Main Committee. He noted that competition winners' successes are founded on highly developed communist consciousness, mass labor enthusiasm, and the creative efforts of production innovators, rationalizers, and inventors. The introduction of new equipment and assimilation of progressive technology have a tremendous part to play.

RADIO FEATURE VIEWS NEW CPSU PROGRAM, GOALS

LD021512 Moscow World Service in English 0931 GMT 2 Mar 85

["Marxism Today" Feature]

[Text] Soviet Communists are preparing for the next, 27th party congress. The congress will consider a new version of the party program. Now what has necessitated it? The question is answered in the following program by the philosopher, Professor (Eduard Zimin).

The party's program is its main policy document setting forth the final goal of the party's activities and the tasks for a definite historical period. Over its 80-odd years the Soviet Communist Party has adopted three programs.

Lenin's party adopted its first program in 1903 when Russia was ruled by a czar and all affairs of the nation were managed by industrial and landowning interests. That being so, the party considered its immediate goal to bring down the tsarist autocracy and to carry out democratic reforms, including an 8-hour working day, the abolition of what still remained of serfdom in the countryside and equality for all ethnic groups. It set itself the goal of investing power in the working classes.

In 1917 Lenin's party led the working people of Russia through a socialist revolution which gave power to the people. The revolution reached the major goals outlined in the party's first program. Therefore there appeared the need to draft a program of further action in the new conditions. The Communist Party was not the governing party in charge of all the affiars of society. Lenin said that the party program couldn't remain only the program of the party, it must become a program of our economic development, otherwise it would be worthless also as a party program.

The party program aimed at the building of socialism in the country was approved at the eighth party congress in 1919. By the middle of the 1930's socialism was built in the main, a planned and crisis-free economy had been established on the basis of socialist public property. The Soviet people got rid of unemployment, there was a steady growth of the people's living and cultural standards. Socialism continued to grow and gain strength, the country's economic potential expended. The Soviet Union was now not alone, there were countries of the socialist community making confident progress.

These changes were acknowledged in the 3d program of the Soviet Communist Party adopted at its 22d Congress in 1961. Now, by a decision of the 26th party congress held in 1981, a new version of the party program is being drafted. The need for it was explained by the general secretary of the party's Central Committee, Konstantin Chernenko, in a speech to the Commission of the Central Committee concerned with drafting a new version of the party program. He said the crux of the matter was to define the degree of social and economic maturity of the new society reached in the country. Party documents of the past few years have made the fundamentally important conclusion that the country was in the early stage of a historically long period, the stage of advanced socialism. Konstantin Chernenko said that this determined the essence of the present and forward looking objectives of the party and the people. In present conditions, he said, the party program should be a program to streamline advanced socialism.

In a recent address to the voters pending 24th February elections to the supreme soviets of the constituent republics, Konstantin Chernenko said this would be a program of great creative activities which would make it possible to implement socialist ideals in full. Hence it would enable the nation to come closer to coping with tasks bearing directly on the building of communism which, the Soviet leader said, had been and remained our great goal.

Writing in the journal KOMMUNIST, Konstantin Chernenko has said that perfecting advanced socialism will take up a whole historical epoch. It will have its own stages, its priority of goals and its deadlines, but it is necessary to cope with pressing problems of top priority right now without delay, so as to put general and qualitatively new elements in the plans for the next 5 years.

What are these priority problems? Konstantin Chernenko pointed to them in his election address; they include boosting the productivity of labor and the material well-being of the people amidst all-round intellectual and cultural progress. Also ensuring complete and universal application of social justice inherent in the socialist system with its basic principle of: From each according to his abilities, to each according to his work.

A priority economic goal is to bring about a steep rise in labor efficiency by way of scientific and technological progress. We are striving for the world's highest level; the party sees the road to qualitative change in the productive forces, in moving on to intensive development and to combining in practice the advantages of the socialist system with the achievements of scientific and technological progress. The accomplishment of major tasks in domestic policy would signal noticeable advancement to social homogeneity. This great goal, which several generations of Communists theorized and dreamed about, has now become a matter of practical work.

The new version of the party program will deal at length with ways of perfecting Soviet statehood and extending socialist democracy. In the more distant future Soviet statehood will gradually evolve into public self-government; this will come about through the further development of our states of the people and through still greater involvement of people in running the affairs of society. Needless to say, much will be recorded in the new version of the Soviet Communist Party's program from the experience of the world's development over the past quarter century.

These years have witnessed an unparalleled step up in the struggle between the two world social systems. It is now clear that an attempt to resolve the historical disputes between socialism and capitalism militarily would spell disaster for humanity. The paramount foreign policy concern for the Communist Party is how relations between these two systems will develop in future. Essentially this is the question of maintaining world peace and saving civilization from nuclear annihilation.

As it works out an all-embracing program for upgrading socialism, the party continues as in the past to concentrate on two crucial and interrelated problems -- development and the maintenance of peace. When the new version of the party program is ready it is expected to be put to large-scale discussion by party organizations and will later come before the 27th party congress.

PRAVDA ON DISCUSSION OF LABOR COLLECTIVES LAW

PM281952 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "In the Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers: Enhancing the Role of Labor Collectives"]

[Text] A joint session of the Legislative Proposals Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers was held in the Kremlin on 27 February.

The commissions examined the question of the practical application by enterprises and organizations in the Latvian SSR of the USSR Law "On Labor Collectives and the Enhancement of Their Role in the Management of Enterprises, Institutions, and Organization." Reports were heard from Yu.Ya. Ruben, chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers, and A.A. Titarenko, leader of the Deputies' Preparatory Commission.

I.I. Gladkiy, deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities Legislative Proposals Commission and secretary fo the AUCCTU, commission members V.D. Dyakonov, Kh.Kh. Parik, and V.I. Semenov, and Yu.P. Batalin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, spoke in the debates.

The closing speech was delivered by Ye.K. Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Soviet of the Union Legislative Proposals Commission.

The decision by the commissions notes that state organs and social organizations in Latvia are doing definite work to implement the law and enhance the role of labor collectives in production, social, and state life. This work is closely linked with the implementation of the tasks arising from the decisions of the 26th party congress and of CPSU Central Committee plenums and helps to consolidate state and labor discipline and focus the efforts of workers and employees on fulfilling the plans of the current year and the 5-year plan as a whole and contractual commitments.

Cadres turnover and losses of work time are being reduced in the republic and many enterprises are successfully fulfilled collective contracts. At the same time, a number of the law's provisions are still not being fully applied. Not all labor collectives are participating in the necessary way in the formulation and discussion of draft plans for the economic and social development of enterprises, in ensuring the rational use of raw materials, the protection of socialist property, and in the struggle against violations of law and order.

The commissions instructed the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers and local soviet ispolkoms in the republic to take additional measures to organize the implementation of the Law and Labor Collectives and to involve working people more extensively in the formulation and discussion of the draft long-term and current plans for the work of enterprises, institutions, and organizations and of the plans for the economic and social development of the corresponding territories.

It is necessary to ensure that the requirements of the law are met regarding the establishment in each collective of an atmosphere of implacability toward breaches of discipline and order in production, the use of measures to influence transgressors and shoddy workers, and the more active provision of incentives to workers for conscientious work.

Local soviet ispolkoms are instructed to involve labor collectives more systematically in discussing soviets' draft decisions, to keep them regularly informed about the work of soviets and organs under their jurisdiction, and to organize the examination of working peoples' suggestions and comments on questions relating to the competence of local soviets.

It is important to show constant concern for the effective realization of the soviets' enormous democratic potential and to develop within labor collectives the ability to make full and skillful use of the extensive powers granted to them by the law.

Instructions were also issued to the AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, the Ministry of Justice, and the USSR Prosecutor's Office connected with improving the practical application of the Law on Labor Collectives.

Other questions concerning the commissions' work during the current year were examined.

Taking part in the session were V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I. Ye. Polyakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of Nationalities; T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium,; A.M. Shkolnikov, chairman of the USSR People's Control Committee; V.I. Terebilov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court; B.V. Kravtsov, USSR minister of justice; and leading workers of a number of other ministries and departments.

SHCHERBITSKIY ON DECISION FULFILLMENT MONITORING

PM281620 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Feb 85 First Edition p 2

[Article by V. Shcherbitskiy, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, under the rubric "Party Life: Review Before the Congress": "Action on Decisions" -- capitalized words published in boldface]

[Text] In preparing for its next congress our party is conducting a review of all aspects of party life, and is summing up the results of the implementation of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums.

The period between congresses has convincingly confirmed that the party's leading role has grown still further, and its links with the masses have become stronger. This has largely been promoted by the consistent observances of Leninist norms and principles and the assertion of the Leninist style of activity of party committees and organizations. "Widespread discussion of party decisions, principled criticism and self-criticism, publicity for the work of all leading party organs, active participation by the entire mass of the party in the elaboration and discussion of policy, and strict discipline in the implementation of adopted resolutions are the distinguishing features of the CPSU's intraparty life," Comrade K.U. Chernenko has noted.

Assessing in an exacting way what has been done, party organizations are improving the entire arsenal of forms and methods of party leadership. An important place in this arsenal is occupied by party decisions, monitoring and verification of their execution, and establishing waht, in Lenin's words, is "IN FACT being done, in fact being achieved."

PARTY RESOLUTION ... each one is an important event in the party organization's life. It is essentially a report on the work that has been done and a specific action program for the future. That is why it is so important for resolutions to reflect the demands of life itself that they be comprehensively substantiated and executed. Naturally, this can only be achieved on the basis of profound and principled analysis and well founded consideration of the tasks that arise.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee unremittingly monitors the solution of key problems of economic develompment, the implementation of social tasks, and the main avenues of organizational, ideological, and mass political work. In preparing a given question for examination at the Central Committee we proceed primarily on the basis of the effect that the adopted resolution will have on the solution of the problem. To that end the opinions and experience of competent people -- the party and soviet aktiv, scientists, specialists, and experienced workers -- is taken into account.

The republic party organization's efforts are now being focused on strengthening and developing the positive trends in the economy and ensuring the fulfillment of this year's plan targets and the socioeconomic program of the 5-year plan on that basis. That is why many of our resolutions are primarily aimed at resolving the tasks of intensifying the economy, accelerating scientific and technical progress, increasing the returns from production and scientific potential, and stepping up the policy of thrift in all sectors of the economy.

In this regard I would like to refer to the resolution recently adopted by the republic Communist Party Central Committee on the work of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences to organize engineering centers.

These problem-oriented subunits sprang up quite recently. There are now five of them in operation: three at the Ye.O. Paton Arc Welding Institute and one each at the V.M. Glushkov Cybernetics Institute and the institute of superhard materials. We have attentively followed the first experience of their work and have seen for ourselves that the engineering centers created as a result of the purposeful questing of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences and the leaders and party organizations at a number of scientific institutes and production collectives are an effective new form of link between science and production.

These centers make it possible to significantly reduce the time taken to develop and introduce a number of materials, techniques, and highly efficient equipment unequalled in domestic and world practice and capable of increasing labor productivity and to reduce material-intensiveness. As a result, a resolution has been adopted which, we believe, is specific and well founded and envisages measures to develop valuable initiatives and monitor their dissemination.

The proposals recently approved by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, aimed at increasing grain production and sales to the state this year and in subsequent years, were the result of businesslike consultations with scientists and specialists, profound analysis of existing possibilities, and consideration of accumulated front-ranking experience and the results of the application of progressive industrial techniques for cultivating winter wheat, corn, and other crops.

The demanding, critical assessment of the state of affairs in a given sector is an indispensable condition for the development of realistic and mobilizing decisions. It was from this angle that the work of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems to ensure the rational utilization of the republic's labor resources was discussed. This problem is extremely urgent. That is why we cannot fail to be alarmed that the committee has not yet really become the organizer of the most efficient returns from labor potential and, in particular, has only a weak influence on the introduction of technically well founded output norms and progressive forms of labor organization. Its monitoring of the dissemination of front-ranking experience, the rational use of worktime, and the retention of cadres in production is inadequate.

Needless to say, not onoy the State Committee for Labor and Social Problems is to blame or these shortcomings. The Gosplan and certain ministries and other republic departments are not doing sufficient work. Party and soviet organs must show greater initiative, and, one might say, combativeness, in this work. All this was reflected in our resolution.

At the same time it is well known that even the best resolution may be only wishful thinking if it is not reinforced with well conceived measures and direct organizational work to implement it locally. Cases of this work being replaced by session mania, which PRAVDA wrote about in its item on Chernigov Oblast, have not yet been eradicated. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has made a principled assessment of the facts cited in the newspaper article.

"CHECKING PEOPLE AND CHECKING THE ACTUAL EXECUTION OF WORK this, this, and only this is now the crux of all work and all policy": This formula of Lenin's has been and remains the law of our life. The need to step up monitoring and verification of the execution of decisions is dictated by the objective conditions and qualitatively new tasks of the present stage of the development of Soviet society and the growing scale of economic and cultural building, when any negligence and the slightest miscalculation, carelessness, and neglect may cause serious losses both materially and morally.

A definite system of monitoring has been organized in the republic.

It includes precise planning; regular discussion at the party central committee, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms of reports from subordinate party committees, primary party organizations, and the leaders of soviet and economic organs and social organizations; information at plenums and party meetings about the execution of adopted decisions and the implementation of proposals and criticism from Communists; and information reports from party committees on their activity.

Sending out groups of workers after the adoption of a resolution to give practical aid in eradicating existing shortcomings and achieving the planned result is the most important element in the system. The aid is not restricted to one-shot trips, it is provided until a breakthrough is achieved.

When, last summer, for instance, difficulties emerged in the work of a number of coal industry enterprises, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, having examined the prevailing situation, deemed it necessary to send to these enterprises a group of Central Committee members, workers from departments headed by a Central Committee secretary, and specialists from the Ministry of the Coal Industry and other organizations. The workers thus assigned gained a deeper insight into the situation locally and provided meaningful help in improving organizational and political work in mining collectives. This, along with other measures resulted in the sector coping with the 1984 plan.

In party Central Committee, obkom, gorkom, and raykom resolutions one now increasingly often encounters the phrase: "entrusting control and personal responsibility...." In posing the question in this way we are following the CPSU Central Committee directives that verification of the execution of decisions must be implemented and headed by competent workers and primarily leaders. After all, well organized verification of execution is an effective means of improving the style and education of cadres. All failings, wherever they emerge, have a common denominator: a low standard of executive discipline and people's responsibility and inadequate demandingness.

SUCCESS IN MONITORING EXECUTION can only be ensured when its fundamental principles formulated by V.I. Lenin -- a political approach, permanency and expeditiousness, a combination of verification from above and monitoring from below, objectivity, mass involvement, publicity, and efficiency -- are consistently implemented.

The political essence of monitoring is indissolubly linked with the growth of the party's role, its sicneitifically substantiated and realistic policy embodied in party decisions, and the strengthening of the confidence of the broad working people's masses in the party. This trust is developed above all by unity of word and deed. The most important thing here is Lenin's directive: Check your work to ensure that words are not just words.

An example of precisely that attitude to work is provided by the party organization at the K.Ye. Voroshilov Combine Harvester Plant in Dnepropetrovsk, the experience of whose work to increase the efficient use of production capacities on the basis of conducting job certification and rationalization has been approved, as is well known, by the CPSU Central Committee. The party committee and the shop party organizations have acted not only as leaders and propagandists of valuable initiatives, but as the organizers of their introduction.

The collective is consistently implementing well conceived plans for ensuring organizational and political measures for job certification and rationalization. Widespread explanatory work involving specialists is carried out. Specially tailored studies have been organized in the system of party and Komsomol training and economic education. Party committee sessions and shop party meetings regularly examine reports from communist leaders, specialists, and rank and file production workers on the search for and utilization of reserves for intensifying production.

Trade union and Komsomol organizations and the scientific and technical community are acting purposefully, in the same key, so to speak. All this together with constant aid, monitoring, and support from the gorkom, obkom, and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has ensured the success of the Dnepropetrovsk combine builders' initiative.

This work style is typical of many party committees. However, we must admit that there are also committees where measures are worked out, various headquarters set up, card indexes kept to follow the progress of the decisions, and computers used, and yet the resolution is not properly carried out. Why? Because this is all done for the sake of form. It is unrealistic to expect concrete results given this approach. Formalism and indifference are the enemies of work.

The effectiveness of monitoring work largely depends on its systematic nature and its organization in such a way that rational facets of front-ranking experience and failings and symptoms of complacency and stagnation are promptly noted, and not only noted: Positive aspects get the go-ahead, negative ones are eradicated. Systematic monitoring work does not permit people to get rusty and rest on their laurels but urges them on to constant questing and creative initiative.

The comprehensive nature of monitoring work presupposes, on the one hand, regular verification of the work of all organs -- state, economic, and social -- and all spheres and units of social production, and on the other hand, the involvement of the broad working people's masses in this verification and their active participation in the activity of people's and social control organs. This is also a concrete manifestation of our political system's genuinely democratic nature.

The expression "step up monitoring" is often used, but sometimes this process boils down to yet another request for diverse information or references, interminable "hanging on the phone," and sometimes straight supplanting. Of course, this "stepping up" has nothing in common with genuine monitoring work and the creation of real rather than sham intensity in work. All kinds of "business" and reprimands are also repugnant to the Leninist style of leadership. This often unsettles people who care about their work, but it makes no impression on people who are inured to outbursts of "managerial anger."

The impassive recording of successes and shortcomings is incompatible with genuine verification of execution. There is little to be gained from that. Being able to bring to light the main trends, both positive and negative, and to mobilize Communists and the public to achieve realistic results is considerably more difficult. However, that is what is necessary. Action, not the sembalance of action, is the main thing in monitoring work.

One must also not forget that monitoring means first and foremost work with people. Yet what sometimes happens? The verification official arrives, collects references, talks with leaders, and goes home. This one-sided monitoring work and assessment of the state of affairs purely from the viewpoint of the leadership clearly suffers from a lack of objectivity. An integral picture can only be compiled on the basis of common opinion, taking account of all the "pros" and "cons."

We must not be indulgent toward indiscipline and irresponsibility, nor should we succumb to the illusion of sham well-being. It is necessary to be principled in everything to the end. Otherwise, if we compromise on small things, we may compromise on great things too. V.I. Lenin pointed out that the party represents a definite organizational unity and people who do not submit to this organization's discipline, ignore it, and flout its decisions; they have no place in it. This is a fundamental rule, and we have no right to forget it.

Those to blame for the nonfulfillment of a resolution must be made accountable. Thus, recently the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee severely punished certain leading workers for Zaporozhye, Poltava, and Khmelnitskiy Oblispolkoms who had shown a lack of administrative ability and responsibility in organizing the fulfillment of resolutions on strengthening state discipline in construction and permitted exaggerated reporting of the commissioning of housing.

Objectivity is the indispensable demand of monitoring work. There is nothing worse than prejudice, reciting of well rehearsed facts, and subjectivism or the desire to see everything through rose-colored glasses and to smooth over sharp corners.

A great deal also depends on the verification official's personality. Once you have been given this right you must above all set an example yourself. But what sometimes happens? The worker lectures others, makes demands, expresses discontent, yet he himself, as the saying goes, is not "pure as the driven snow." Does such a person have the moral right to monitor others? Of course not. "...If we conscientiously teach workers and peasants to be disciplined," V.I. Lenin pointed out, "we must start with ourselves." These wise words should be referred to more often, and not only in terms of strengthening discipline, which is extremely important, but also in a broader sense.

THE FORMS AND METHODS OF MONITORING WORK are varied and extremely dynamic. The practice of party organizations and the creativity of the masses are constantly producing something new and improving what we already have. It is very important to sense the pulse of the time and not submit to the magic of cliches.

What do we see as the reserves for improving work on fulfilling decisions? First and foremost, increasing their quality, specifically, and prestige. In particular, it is important not to permit so-called willful decisions. Adopted instinctively and under the influence of some kind of external factors or hasty conclusions, they turn out as a rule to be a "flash in the pan," and naturally are of no use. Our principled position also lies in not adopting repeat resolutions on the same questions when previous ones have not been fulfilled. A great deal of trouble in the work of ferrous metallurgy enterprises, for instance, has been caused by the fact that planning organs, the republic Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and the Union Ministry have not been concerned to ensure that decisions once made to develop the "support services" of metallurgical production, mining enterprises and coal-tar chemical plants, were entirely fulfilled within the allotted time.

Second, it is important to further improve the system of monitoring and verification of execution and beef up the demands made for the fulfillment of party and government resolutions. We have allocated a great role here to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Commission, party commissions at party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, and party organizations' auditing commissions.

Third, it is necessary to regulate the organization of verification. The following cases can still be encountered. One month there were 23 and 16 different commissions working at the Zaporozhye Refractory Plant and the "Zaporozhdrev" Association respectively. Each department and inspectorate conducted verification on some single question. The conclusions drawn by previous commissions were not taken into account in most cases. Everything started, so to speak, from scratch. This backtracking in monitoring work cannot be of any use. The interests of the work require more precise coordination of verification and the pooling of various organizations' efforts. People's control organs should be more actively in evidence here.

Fourth, the reserves for improving monitoring work lie in achieving indissoluble unity between analysis and action.

The immutable rule must be that every verification official and every commission must show without fail what they have done specifically to eradicate the shortcomings that have been brought to light, and what help they have provided.

Finally, these reserves lie in stepping up the publicity given to monitoring and education work with people and increasing the role of primary party organizations and labor collectives.

Primary party organizations have been given great rights in organizing the fulfillment of production plans, resolving questions of the selection, placement, and education of cadres, and improving people's working and living conditions. If a primary party organization's work is up to standard and if it shows principledness in pursuing the party line, does not indulge the administration when it acts incorrectly, and does not compromise, on the whole things will be fine in the labor collective. A great deal can be done here by the primary party organizations' commissions to monitor administrative activity and the work of the apparatus.

Stepping up monitoring and verification of the execution of decisions and improving the their forms and methods is the guarantee of a further increase in the level of the party organizations' organizational and political work and the successful resolution of all tasks of economic and sociocultural building. The results of the plans' fulfillment for the development of the republic's economy last year can serve as evidence of that.

Here are just a few figures. The rate of production and labor productivity growth in industry considerably exceeded the plan. More than R2 billion of industrial output was sold over and above the plan, and 95 percent of the growth in production was achieved through increased labor productivity. Major production projects and capacities stipulated by the plan were commissioned. The plans for the commissioning of housing, pereschool institutions, schools, vocational and technical colleges, hospitals, and medical centers were overfulfilled. In implementing the food program, agricultural workers, despite the difficult weather conditions in a number of oblasts, obtained the largest volume of gross output ever. Grain production increased. The plans for purchases of potatoes, vegetables, grapes, meat, milk, and eggs were overfulfilled. The 5-year plan's social program is being consistently implemented.

However, there are no grounds for complacency and there can be none. We know that there are still insufficient reserves, and by no means everywhere are they being brought into play with the proper activeness. Making fuller use of these reserves means achieving new successes in economic and cultural building and increasing the people's prosperity. It is to this end that the activity of the republic's party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations is being directed in the final year of the 11th 5-Year Plan and the period of direct preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress.

GRISHIN, OTHERS SIGN OFFICIALS' OBITUARIES

Gossnab Official

PM281527 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 85 First Edition p 6

[Obituary of Georgiy Ivanovich Ivanovskiy]

[Excerpts] Major General of Engineering and Technical Services Georgiy Ivanovich Ivanovskiy, retired, a prominent organizer of economic building, member of the CPSU since 1927, former deputy chairman of the USSR Gossnab, and personal pensioner of union significance, died 25 February 1985 after a serious illness.

G.I. Ivanovskiy was born in 1906 in Taganrog, Rostov Oblast.

V.V. Grishin, M.S. Solomentsev, N.A. Tikhonov, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, V.I. Dolgikh, Ye.K. Ligachev, N.I. Ryzhkov, I.V. Arkhipov, N.K. Baybakov, V.E. Dymshits, N.V. Martynov, A.P. Lyashko, A.A. Titarenko, M.N. Svevolozhskiy, M.S. Smirtyukov, B.I. Gostev, I.P. Yastrebov, P.F. Lomako, I.P. Kazanets, N.V. Goldin, A.A. Yezhevskiy, V.F. Promyslov, N.I. Kolesnev, V.O. Kulikov, V.N. Ksintaris, A.N. Lebed, N.N. Nikolaychik.

Former Machine-Tool Minister

PM280849 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 85 First Edition p 6

[Excerpts] Hero of Socialist Labor Anatoliy Ivanovich Kostousov, eminent organizer of Soviet machine-building, CPSU member since 1925, former minister of the machine-tool and tool-building industry, and personal pensioner of union significance, died on 22 February 1985 after a serious illness.

A.I. Kostousov was born into a peasant family in the village of Nofrinskoye, Yaroslavl Oblast, in October 1906.

V.V. Grishin, G.V. Romanov, M.S. Solomentsev, N.A. Tikhonov, V.I. Dolgikh, I.V. Kapitonov, N.I. Ryzhkov, I.V. Arkhipov, A.K. Antonov, N.K. Baybakov, N.V. Martynov, G.I. Marchuk, L.V. Smirnov, M.S. Smirtyukov, V.S. Frolov, A.I. Volskiy, S.A. Afanasyev, B.V. Balmont, K.I. Brekhov, V.M. Velichko, A.A. Yezhevskiy, A.I. Mayorets, N.S. Patolichev, V.N. Polyakov, I.S. Silayev, M.S. Shkabardnya, A.I. Shokin, A.N. Dubov, N.A. Panichev, A.P. Vasilyev, V.M. Voyevodin, V.P. Kedrov, I.A. Ordinartsev, V.G. Skryabin, G.N. Federovskiy.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES GEORGIAN CP PLENUM

LD012158 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read TASS report]

[Text] A plenum of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee took place in Tbilisi today. The republican party organization's work for further improving the selection, placing, and education of cadres and improving their work style in the light of theses and conclusions contained in Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's speeches and works were examined. Comrade Shevarnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the plenum.

LAUNCH OF COSMOS-1632 SATELLITE REPORTED

LD011451 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched another artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-1632" on March 1, 1985.

The sputnik carries scientific equipment for the continuation of the exploration of outer space.

The sputnik was put into the orbit with the following parameters: the initial period of revolution -- 88.8 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 261 kilometres, the minimum distance from the earth's surface -- 203 kilometres, inclination of the orbit -- 72.9 degrees.

The equipment on board the satellite is functioning normally.

SALYUT-7 SPACE STATION WORK 'FULFILLED'

LD011221 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- From a special TASS correspondent in the Mission Control Centre:

The Salyut-7 scientific station has been in the near-earth orbit for over 34 months now.

Over that period three main expeditions worked aboard the station for 211, 150 and 237 days. They were joined by four visiting crews, among them two international teams which included cosmonauts of France and India. Svetlana Satitskaya was the first woman to work in outer space.

Extensive repair and maintenance work was carried out both inside Salyut-7 and in outer space. A vast amount of research and experimental work in the interests of science and the national economy was carried out.

The data received are being processed by the institutions of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

As the planned program of work aboard the Salyut-7 orbital station has been fulfilled, the station was mothballed and continues its flight in an automatic regime.

BRIEFS

TWO ANTARCTIC AIRSTRIPS OPERATIONAL -- The air bridge between Leningrad and Antarctica was reactivated. Today from Pulkovo airport an IL-18D craft took off on the first super long distance flight to the Antarctic this year. Via Odessa, Cairo, Aden, and Maputo, it will deliver a large group of polar workers to the Molodezhnaya Observatory. Then the aircraft will make a series of shuttle flights to southern Africa to ferry crew replacements for the Antarctica expedition. Now there are two snow-airstrips in operation on Antarctica: at Molodezhnaya and at Novolazarevskaya station. They are built on original Soviet technological design and can accommodate heavy transport aircraft. A similar 3-km airstrip is now planned also for the inland Vostok station. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Feb 85 LD]

DEFENSE MINISTER SOKOLOV DECORATES CADETS

PM011020 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Russian 27 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by Colonel N. Kalmykov: "Competition Winners"]

[Text] USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov has rewarded [pooshehril] a group of higher military training establishment students and cadets who were winners of the 10th All-Union Competition for Student Work on the Social Sciences, the History of the Komsomol, and the International Youth Movement. They were given a vote of thanks and were awarded valuable gifts with their names inscribed on them.

The award recipients included students Major V. Vedernikov and Captains S. Koninin and V. Ovsyannikov (V.I. Lenin Military Political Academy); Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces Major F. (Ortu) (Marshal of the Soviet Union A.M. Vasilevskiy Military Academy of Air Defense), and Cadets M. Aziz (Minsk Higher Military Political Combined Arms School), V. Belashov (A.F. Mozhayskiy Military Engineering Institute) and others.

The USSR Defense Ministry also rewarded the group of officers who led the competition work for their high standard of scientific leadership of the students' and cadets' work.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ALTUNIN INTERVIEWED

PM011607 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 8, 18-24 Feb 85 (Signed to Press 30 Feb 85) p 2

[Interview with Hero of the Soviet Union Army General Aleksandr Terentyevich Altunin, chief of USSR Civil Defense and USSR deputy defense minister, by Viktor Vodolazhskiy under the rubric "23 February Is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "School of the Brave"]

[Vodolazhskiy] To put it briefly, what is the chief purpose of civil defense?

[Altunin] I have already said that it has an important role to play in the country's defense. It is a constituent part of the system of statewide defense measures implemented to protect the population and the national economy agains modern means of destruction and to liquidate the consequences of an enemy attack.

As is known, our resolute policy of peace and of ensuring international security is countered by the aggressive policy of the reactionary imperialist circles of the United States and other NATO countries. It is glaringly obvious that they still do not intend to reduce the pace of the arms race. Everything is being done to prepare powerful forces of aggression. Moreover the means and methods of training the servicement of those countries' armies are directed toward practical actions, not toward any "abstract" classroom exercises. The duration of exercises of various kinds, which it is becoming hard to distinguish from real preparations for war, is noteworthy.

The uneasy and dangerously explosive world situation has been still further aggravated with the start of the deployment of American medium-range missiles in West European countries.

[Vodolazhskiy] Thus, our people and our Army must be particularly vigilant.

[Altunin] Yes, circumstances dictate the need to know the possible nature of the North Atlantic bloc's aggressive actions. Our ardor must not be dampened. Very high readiness to defend socialism's gains: This is the USSR Armed Forces' chief task!

If we speak of the combat ability of the Armed and Navy, in terms of military-technical potential and personnel training the Soviet Army and Navy are abreast of modern requirements. They are capable of conducting active combat operations under different conditions of modern war situations and, thus, successfully resolving very complex operational-tactical and strategic tasks on land, in the air, and at sea.

[Vodolazhskiy] Commanders today can very frequently be heard to say the words "the serviceman's moral, political, and psychological training." What is this?

[Altunin] I will answer like this: It is the process of shaping the lofty political, moral and psychological qualities in servicemen that they need for the successful fulfillment of the set tasks. However, the means and methods might differ here. Some are used to temper the will of members of airborne landing forces, others for tankmen, and yet others for submariners. But the principle is the same: Military training is based on the tireless concern of commanders and political workers for shaping ideological conviction and communist awareness in servicemen. Precisely these qualities, conviction and awareness, having always been the chief source of servicemen's heroism both in the Great Patriotic War and now. "Our army today, as always, is strong not only in terms of modern hardware and good training, but also by virtue of its ideological charge and its high moral and political spirit," Comrade K.U. Chernenko pointed out at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries.